

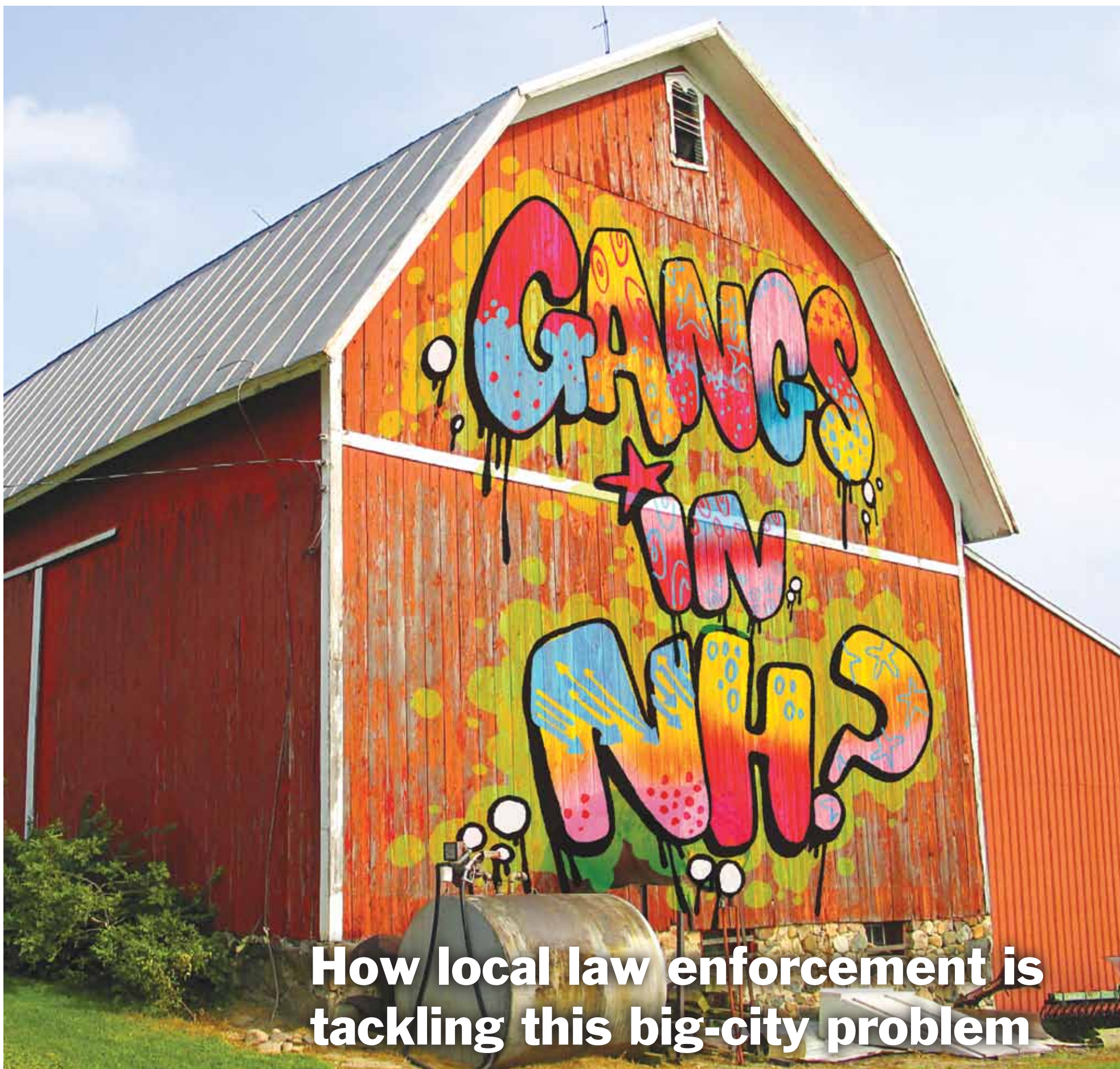
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OUTDOOR EATS:
WHERE TO
GET A TASTE OF
THE SEASON

JUNE 9 - 15, 2011

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



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BY BOB BAINES

GRANITE VIEWS

Say yes to good teachers



I recently learned principals in Manchester can't recommend experienced and skilled teachers for their schools. This policy harms Manchester's students.

Manchester School District, like other districts, does not allow principals to recommend candidates for teaching positions if they have more than a bachelor's degree with three years of experience or a master's degree with one year of experience, though some exceptions are made for critical shortage positions.

Imagine if you learned that your local hospital announced a policy that would only hire doctors if they had little or no experience. Would you have concerns about the quality of your hospital?

While I understand the strain that budgets place on schools and recognize the importance of obtaining a healthy mix of inexperienced and experienced teachers, this policy isn't good for schools or the teaching profession — and it could well be illegal.

I have seen evidence that this type of policy discriminates on the basis of age and gender. When I was principal at West High School in Manchester, an interview team and I recommended an experienced mathematics teacher. She was rejected by the school board because her experience would place her at the top of the pay scale. We were forced to hire a teacher with no experience whom we normally would have not hired at all. The students' education clearly suffered as a result of this action. And our candidate was discriminated against because of her age and experience.

If you are a woman with more than three years of experience and decide to stay home to care for your child (I understand that some men also make this decision), this policy may prevent you from returning to work as a teacher. The number of years one is allowed to stay home and still retain the right to return to a position varies from community to community. This isn't right.

Though mindful of the budget, principals should be allowed to advocate for more experienced candidates based on the needs of the school and educational issues in individual schools. Principals need to be able to make hires that are in the best interest of students too.

On the teacher side, unions need to make reasonable adjustments to create more flexibility so more experienced teachers can be hired during these tough economic times.

The education of our children should be more important than a blanket restrictive policy that impacts the quality of our schools and very well may be discriminatory.

Bob Baines has served as the president of Chester College of New England since 2007. He was mayor of Manchester from 2000 to 2006 and principal of Manchester High School West from 1980 to 1999.

12 Gangs? Here?

Street gangs seem like a big-city problem but even in New Hampshire the issue of gangs and how to address gang-related crime faces local law enforcement. Reporter Adam Coughlin looks at what kind of gang problems our area has and how police are responding.



Also on the cover: Looking for **summer eats**? Check out our story on a local farm stand on page 34 and a long-time hot dog vendor on page 36. See page 35 for a listing of area farmers markets.

Whether it's a concert or free music in the park, we've got your **summer music listings**. See page 51 for a listing of upcoming concerts. See page 52 for free outdoor music and karaoke listings. And check out page 55 for our weekly listing of live music at area clubs and restaurants.

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NEWS & NOTES

News in Brief

• **Former governor dies:** Former New Hampshire governor Walter Peterson, 88, died last week after fighting lung cancer. (He never smoked.) Peterson, who was known as a moderate Republican, served in the corner office from 1969 to 1973. Gov. John Lynch ordered flags lowered to half staff in honor of Peterson. “Governor Walter Peterson represented all that is great and wonderful about our state,” Lynch said in a statement. “With a strength of character as tough as New Hampshire granite — Governor Peterson was a true New Hampshire icon, a gentleman and a strong example of courage and honesty in politics.” Peterson, born in Nashua, also served as president of Franklin Pierce College. He graduated from Dartmouth College and spent four years as a U.S. Naval Reserve officer in the Southern Pacific.

• **Right-to-work stirs up conflict between legislators:** Things are getting a little nasty in the state House of Representatives, largely over right-to-work legislation that Gov. John Lynch vetoed. State Rep. Matt Quandt, R-Exeter, recently resigned from his post as Deputy Majority Leader, and Rep. Tim Copeland, R-Stratham, resigned from his position as House Whip. Quandt’s father, Rep. Marshall Quandt, R-Exeter, was previously removed from a position on the Finance Committee after he spoke out against House Speaker William O’Brien, R-Mont Vernon. “When I was approached about joining House leadership, I was very clear that I would continue to support the rights of New Hampshire’s workers even as a member of leadership,” Matt Quandt said in a press release. “...But it is evident now that pro-worker Republican views like mine are not respected under this leadership team. ... “We are not here to blindly follow a leader who is rejecting those values to please a group of transplants who have no understanding for New Hampshire tradition.” The House and the Senate passed right-to-work legislation but the House failed to do so by a veto-proof majority. O’Brien held off on a vote two weeks ago presumably because he didn’t have the votes to override the veto. Reports indicated some representatives are taking exception to O’Brien’s team’s lobbying tactics. According to reports, it got worse as Deputy Majority Speaker Shawn Jasper, R-Hudson, accused Quandt of being drunk in the House chamber. Copeland said in a press release he couldn’t sit by on a leadership team that was bent on destroying the state’s strong labor force and good benefits. “I cannot condone the incredible disrespect that Bill O’Brien has shown to other members of our caucus who are trying to represent their constituents,” Copeland said. Both Marshall Quandt and Copeland are members of the State Employees Association retirees’ chapter.

• **House supports spending/tax caps:** Last week the House signed off on a measure, by a vote of 276-95, that would allow voters to enact tax/spending caps in New Hampshire. Senate Bill 2 was conceived after the Supreme Court last year ruled that Manchester’s spending cap lacked legislative authority, according to a House press release.

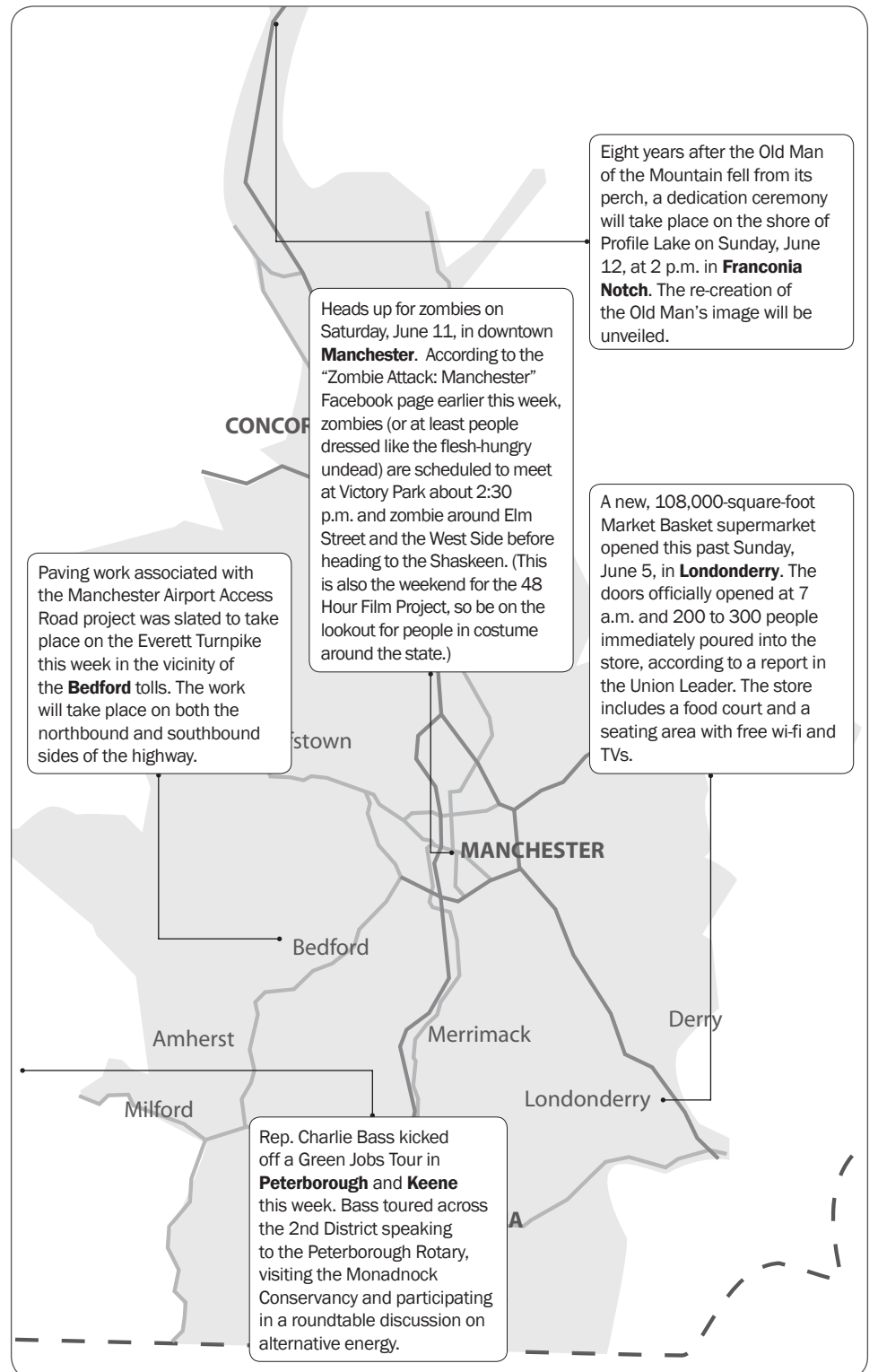
• **House working to repeal RGGI:** The House isn’t giving up on repealing New Hampshire’s involvement with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). While the Senate opted to reform the program rather than

withdraw from it, the House is taking a different approach. Lawmakers attached the bill to legislation that would reform the Shoreland Protection Act. The move comes following news that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie moved to remove his state from the Initiative. O’Brien has called the program a “backdoor tax” and said removing the Granite State from the program would help grow the economy and create jobs. Supporters of RGGI have said that if New Hampshire were to withdraw from the program, ratepayers would continue to pay electricity prices as though they were still taking part but wouldn’t receive any benefit from it.

• **Job training continues with more grants:** Five more companies are set to benefit from the state’s job training grant program. Altogether, 543 workers in New Hampshire will receive training from the grants, which total about \$73,000. The state’s Job Training Fund distributes as much as \$2 million each year in matching grants to allow companies to train new workers or retrain longtime employees. The Fund was established in 2007, and since that time nearly 10,000 workers in the state have received training. Recipients last month were The Dubay Group in Windham, Fujifilm Dimatix in Lebanon, Bond Optics of Lebanon, New Hampshire Ball Bearing in Peterborough and Albany International in Rochester. Since the Fund was established, companies have received grants totaling more than \$3.5 million and those companies have contributed nearly \$6 million. Visit www.nhjobtrainingfund.org.

• **House goes paperless for members’ calendar and payment statements:** Two small moves could save the state about \$100,000 each year. The state will switch to an online system for employee checks, and the state House of Representatives has moved to save on mailing expenses for the weekly calendar it sends to its 400 members. The state will begin producing online payment statements on July 1. Employees using direct deposit will no longer receive paper confirmation and instead will have 24/7 online access to information regarding their pay, leave and sick day status. The system, which would eliminate printing and handling of check statements, is expected to save the state about \$34,000. The House will stop printing and sending out calendars and journals to representatives; instead, copies will be available online and hard copies will be available in the Clerk’s Office. Savings from that measure would be about \$70,000, according to a House press release.

• **Outdoors enthusiasts join to support clean air:** Members of New Hampshire’s outdoor businesses, sporting clubs and guides were expected to join together on the Merrimack River at Everett Arena in Concord this past Tuesday, June 7, at 12:30 p.m., to urge Congress to protect the Clean Air Act. Participants were to release a letter calling on congressional leaders to allow the EPA to hold polluters accountable by protecting the Clean Air Act. The letter was signed by 50 groups or individuals who are part of the \$500 million New Hampshire industry. According to a group press release, several senators and congressmen have introduced bills to block or delay EPA efforts to reduce mercury, carbon dioxide, methane and coal ash. The Clean Air Act requires the EPA to issue air quality standards for pollutants that harm human health and wildlife by limiting pollutants from industri-



al facilities, power plants, and vehicle tailpipes.

• **Beware mosquitoes and ticks:** The state Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health Services is encouraging residents and visitors to take precautions against mosquito and tick bites to prevent diseases, such as West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and Lyme disease. Ticks and mosquitoes are already out, and the most likely time for them to spread disease is between June and September. Last year, one animal and one person tested positive for West Nile Virus and one animal tested positive for EEE. There were 1,335 cases of Lyme disease. The state has one of the highest rates of Lyme disease in the country, said Dr. Jose Montero, director of Public Health, in a press release. EEE and West Nile Virus are transmitted through the bite of an

infected mosquito. EEE carries a high mortality rate for people who contract the serious encephalitis form of the illness. In the majority of cases, people who contract West Nile Virus experience no symptoms or mild, flu-like symptoms. However, at times West Nile Virus can cause meningitis and can be a serious threat to seniors, young children and those with compromised immune systems. Lyme disease is caused by a bacterium spread by the bite of some ticks. If a tick is removed within 24 hours there is usually no chance of infection. Officials advise people to use insect repellent containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535. They advise people to wear long-sleeved shirts, tuck pants into socks, perform thorough tick checks, keep home grass short and reduce leaf litter.

CORRECTION: In last week’s cover story, “Get Out and Play,” which was a guide to New Hampshire’s state parks, the admission price for Daniel Webster’s Birthplace in Franklin was incorrect. Admission is free for New Hampshire residents. Out-of-state residents must pay \$7 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6 to 11 and there is no admission charge for children ages 5 or younger.



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Hearth Designs

More jobs, fewer workers?

NH unemployment rate falls but so does labor force

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

There are a few things at work on the jobs front in New Hampshire.

On paper, the numbers look like they're heading in the right direction. The Granite State unemployment rate was about 4.9 percent for last month, down from 5.2 percent the previous month. That's down from a high point of 6.7 percent in January 2010. It's still more than a full percentage point away from where New Hampshire's historical average is — about 3.5 percent — but the rate has been dropping in recent months. Since April 2010, the state has added about 7,000 jobs.

"If you compare it to the nation, it looks very, very encouraging," said Annette Nielsen, an economist with the New Hampshire Department of Employment Security. The national unemployment rate is about 9.1 percent.

"The unemployment rate improvement is certainly a good thing, probably about two-thirds of a good thing," said Dennis Delay, an economist with the New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies. "Two-thirds you can probably attribute to growth and jobs. ... The other reason for the unemployment rate reduction ... is a reduction in the labor force."

From April 2010 to last month, the labor force dropped by about 4,500 people, Delay said.

It could be there are just fewer people, but it's more likely that there are still about as many people but fewer want to be part of the labor force. That's called the discouraged worker hypothesis, Delay said.

"When people feel that they can't become employed, they stop looking and drop out of the labor force," Delay said. "They are essentially not counted."

Officials don't know exactly what is causing the drop in the labor force, but many are hearing, anecdotally, that prospective workers are giving up on looking for work.

Nielsen said it's complicated, though. In fact, in the spring of 2009, when the economy was particularly bad, there were more workers joining the workforce. It's difficult to know what is happening with the labor force at a given time. Discouraged workers leaving the workforce is one possibility that could make the unemployment rate seem better than it is. But there are other possible factors at play. People who lost their jobs might have simply opted to retire. Another possibility that could impact the unemployment rate is a scenario where only one person in a couple has a job, and then when he or she loses it, both members have to look for a job.

The unemployment rate tends to be a lagging indicator. As the economy improves, more people who dropped out of the labor force come back in. That might result in the unemployment rate's rising a bit as the economy improves, Delay said.

The state ultimately lost about 30,000 jobs. So far, it's gained back about 10,000.

"So we've still got a ways to go," Nielsen said.

The bounce back in the unemployment rate has been experienced across industry lines. Officials have said New Hampshire benefited throughout the financial crisis and subsequent recession from its diverse base of industries.

Manufacturing, professional and business

services, education, health care, and leisure and hospitality have all been adding jobs. Business services include lawyers, accountants, insurance and technical companies, such as website services. There have even been small gains in financial services. The only sector still seeing losses is industries associated with real estate, like construction, Delay said.

Construction continues to shed jobs. Nielsen said construction, tied to the housing market, saw a bit of a bubble leading up to the recession.

Taking a look at the whole period of recession, it was essentially just health care that wasn't hit all that hard in New Hampshire, Nielsen said. She noted that growth in health care in New Hampshire has slowed.

The state and the nation have also seen growth in the temporary industry. When the economy goes south, it's one of the first areas to go, since it's the easiest to get rid of, Nielsen said. She said, as the industry picks back up again, officials are wondering if it's a sign that temp jobs may be a new way of doing business. It still hasn't recovered in New Hampshire from what it lost, she said.

Manufacturing has come back somewhat, but Nielsen said manufacturing in New Hampshire had already been in a long-term period of decline. In that sense, it's difficult to gauge how far back the industry will ultimately make it.

Professional and business service jobs, which includes things like engineering and consulting, are typically fairly well-paying jobs, as are manufacturing jobs. Health care and education can vary more but can still produce well-paying jobs. Jobs in social assistance, caregiving and leisure and hospitality tend to be lesser-paying. Tourism is a big part of the state economy, but the industry typically doesn't pay well, Delay said.

Delay said he didn't have any local data with regard to unemployment rates for particular industries. He figured the rate would probably be greater in New Hampshire for construction workers than, say, health care workers.

"You can surmise that just from looking at the number of jobs," Delay said.

The unemployment rate varies with the level of educational attainment. People who are highly skilled with greater degrees of education tend to have lower unemployment rates than folks without those skills.

The unemployment rate is determined by the total number of people out of work divided by the total number of people in the labor force. That's just one way of measuring the rate, Delay said. If officials were to count the people who are out of the labor force, as well as the people in a temporary or part-time job who want a full-time job and the people who are in a job they don't want to be in, it would be reasonable to add another six percentage points to the unemployment rate. That would be comparable on the national level as well, Delay said. That would bring the New Hampshire rate closer to 11 percent.

"It's still higher than what we're used to here," Delay said.

Nielsen said she'll hear people who have just gotten a job say things aren't that bad out there any more. At the same time, she'll hear people say they've been trying to find a job for a long time and haven't had any luck.

"There's probably truth to both stories," Nielsen said.

HIPPO POLITICS

Where the budget cuts were

Senate passes \$10.3 billion proposal

By Jeff Mucciarone
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In the end, the state Senate's \$10.3 billion budget proposal wasn't all that different from the budget the House of Representatives passed in March.

Initial comments by Senate leaders in early April suggested the Senate would be restoring many of the cuts the House imposed. The Senate ended up restoring about \$75 million worth of cuts, not insubstantial but not nearly as much as many were hoping.

"I think the Senate budget is remarkably similar to the House budget," said Charles Arlinghaus, president of the Josiah Bartlett Center for Public Policy in Concord. "There were some slight differences, but the bottom line is that both budgets are very similar."

The budget passed the Senate last week on a party-line 19-5 vote.

"Crafting this budget was a difficult task," said Sen. Chuck Morse, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, in a statement. "But I'm proud to say Senate Finance rose to the occasion. This budget is designed to strengthen our state's fiscal situation for the next biennium as well as the future, but it is just a first step. We will continue to make reforms over the summer, into the fall and throughout the next legislative session. We will continue to hold the line on spending and look for additional savings."

The Senate's proposal represents an 11-percent decrease in spending from the current two-year budget. The budget includes revenue growth of 1.3 percent and a surplus of \$30 million to beef up the state's reserve fund.

The Statehouse lawn was full of protesters leading up to the passage of the House's budget. The Senate didn't get hit with nearly the same level of protest, but many of the House's cuts remained. The Senate did remove a measure that would have weakened collective bargaining rights. Hospitals and the state University System were hit particularly hard.

The Senate did restore some funding for people suffering from mental health issues and developmental disabilities. So the Senate attempted to help out the two most vulnerable populations in the state — both would have modest increases from the year before. But the rest of the budget would be a significant reduction, Arlinghaus said.

Democratic senators fought to restore funding to a number of programs, but their efforts proved fruitless.

Arlinghaus said there was less than one percent difference in spending between the two bodies' proposals. Neither, he said, resembles Lynch's proposal from February. Revenue estimates have changed since then. Many thought Lynch's revenue assumptions were a little too optimistic at the time, but his budget was largely lauded as a solid first step. Lynch's budget proposed spending about \$244 million more than the Senate proposal.

"I think the Senate did exactly the right thing," Arlinghaus said. "The money is



not there. We need to get our spending in line with revenues. Spending had to be cut dramatically. They had the right priorities. They cut Health and Human Services less and everything else more."

Getting together

The two bodies will need to meet in committees of conference to iron out their few differences. Arlinghaus figured it wouldn't be a difficult process.

The big question will be how the House responds to the Senate's revenue estimates, which are a little bit greater than the House's. The Senate will also need to justify the slight increases to people with mental health issues and developmental disabilities. The House would have to agree to those revenue estimates.

"I think they should, but it's hard to know if they will," Arlinghaus said.

If the House does agree with the estimates, then the question is whether the House would agree that those are the right areas to add back in money.

"Once you resolve those two issues, everything else is just details," Arlinghaus said.

While many expected more restoration from the Senate, Arlinghaus said their hands were tied by a lack of money.

House Speaker William O'Brien called the Senate's revenue estimates "realistic" in a statement. He said the primary difference between the two budgets was that the Senate took Lynch's word that he would balance the current fiscal year's budget. O'Brien charged that Lynch hasn't done anything to meet that demand just yet.

Too much risk?

Naturally a budget that cuts as much as this one proposes to do presents some risk.

"There's always a risk," Arlinghaus said. "But if you think about it, there's risk in that we're cutting public television entirely or grants to the arts. But we're in difficult times. Those are areas that can be curtailed. I don't think it's a risk as much as it's an adjustment."

Officials say there just wasn't enough money to justify restoring funding.

"I would have been disappointed if they'd restored more," Arlinghaus said. "This budget needed to make significant cuts. The only way to add more money would be to have an unbalanced budget."

Any sign of a veto?

Though both the Senate and the House could override a veto by Lynch, Arlinghaus said Lynch needs to make it known if he is thinking about vetoing a budget bill.

"He has to tell us that," Arlinghaus said. "If he is thinking about a veto, what does he want added back in and where is the money coming from to pay for it?"

"He needs to propose something or he needs to just sit back and sign whatever they produce," Arlinghaus said. "He can either participate or watch, but it's his choice."

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Political persuader

Americans for Prosperity zeroes in on fiscal issues

Corey Lewandowski runs the New Hampshire chapter of Americans for Prosperity, which in April held a forum on the economy that drew five prospective presidential candidates. Visit www.americansforprosperity.org/new-hampshire. The national organization has more than 1.6 million members.

Q: *What is the organization all about?*

It's a free-market public policy organization that focuses on smaller government, less spending and lower taxes. It's non-partisan. We're just focusing on a smaller government.

What type of role do you expect ... to play in New Hampshire during the primary?

I think we can play an influential role. With the economy and jobs of primary importance to voters ... that aligns with our message.... We have 28,000 members in New Hampshire. ... we'll be doing education to help voters understand what the candidates are talking about.

So the focus is really on a smaller government?

We're not engaging in social issues, which can potentially divide people. For us, it's important to look at issues that have an impact in New Hampshire, like the debt ceiling, like business taxes ... things that people understand can help small businesses grow. ... We have 8.5 percent unemployment, more job losses, the housing market is still in the drink.... Social issues, in my opinion, are not a determining factor for who the new Republican nominee for president will be and, by extension, who will be the next president.

Are candidates in the primary hearing that message on the economy?

It goes back to James Carville in the Clinton years, when Clinton was running against George H.W. Bush. He said, "It's the economy, stupid." The question is, are you better off today than you were three and a half years ago? If the answer is yes...then I think that is a decision of the people to reelect President Obama. If the answer is no, and I think the statistics bear that we are not better off, then it's time to change the leadership in this country.

What about the state legislature ... have they heard that message as well?

The House has done a phenomenal job of listening to the voters who spoke last November. Those voters wanted less government spending, lower taxes, and they wanted to make a business-friendly environment. The House, led by [House Speaker William O'Brien], did exactly what voters asked for, which is a budget that does not exceed how much we spend, without raising taxes and fees. The Speaker has been a leader for right-to-work. He's been a leader in getting New Hampshire out of a regional cap and trade issue called [the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative]. A five-cent across-the-board tax reduction on gasoline, I think those are the types of initiatives that we need. I think the converse of that is the state Senate, which has been less willing to listen to the electorate. They've passed some legislation but they increased the House budget by about \$71 million, they added \$71 million back. They are against removing New Hampshire from the regional cap and trade program. It's disappointing because there are a number of newly elected Senators who ran on a pledge for Americans for Prosperity, of cutting taxes and fees,



adhering to the Constitution. House Bill 648 [which would prohibit public utilities from petitioning for permission to take private land or property rights for construction

or operation of certain transmission facilities, according to the bill text] is at the heart of it. It's a decision of the legislature to allow a private for-profit company to take your property. ... To say some for-profit company is going to take a percentage of your land to put up a utility line where 80 percent of the benefit will go to the residents of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and it's just wrong. Hopefully, the Senate will take it up. [The measure has been specifically tied to the controversial Northern Pass project.]

Where did Americans for Prosperity come from?

It was started about seven or eight years ago. ... in Kansas. It was the offspring of a group called Citizens for a Sound Economy. The goal was to bring an organization out to focus not on social issues but on fiscal issues. The idea was to bring the organization to individual states, as opposed to Washington, D.C. The organization operates in 35 states across the country, run by people like me who live in the state, to help impact public policy decisions at the state level.

When did you come on board?

About three years ago, on July 1, 2008, to the fanfare of exactly three people at the Statehouse in Concord. If you want to see how miserable a launch it was — I called a bunch of people and nobody showed up. ... And three years later, we're one of probably the biggest organizations in the state. ... Americans for Prosperity has been one of, if not the main sponsor, at a number of major tea party events, including the last three held at the Statehouse ... timing is everything in life. We were launching an organization focused on less spending, coupled with a president who increased the national debt, doled out bailouts ... the timing was just right. Average citizens were seeing that they weren't getting a bailout. "Let's do something to change the direction."

Three years, that's pretty quick.

... at the time, there were a limited number of groups focusing on fiscal issues ... I did a training with one person at the Conway library on how to contact elected officials. Four weeks ago, we did a training with 650 people.

Do you see interest in the organization's message from Democrats?

It depends on the issue you're focused on. There are Republicans we have gone after for their positions on things like RGGI. ... For us, it's is completely irrelevant what party you're registered with. ... If you vote against liberty ... against the business community, there will be a recourse.

—Jeff Mucciarone

QoL

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

JUNE 9, 2011

Good real estate deals make good poetry

This year marks the 100th anniversary of when poet Robert Frost sold his farm in Derry. The sale helped finance his writing career for the next few years, which turned out well: Frost won four Pulitzer Prizes for poetry and spoke at John F. Kennedy's inauguration. Recent renovations have made the farm look much the same as it did when the Frost family inhabited it.

QOL score: +1

Comment: Visit the Frost Farm this summer. See www.robertfrostfarm.org.

Living free

A recent study by the Mercatus Center, a market-oriented think tank at George Mason University, declared that New Hampshire and South Dakota are the overall freest states in the country. The two fell into a virtual tie for first place, according to the report. New York was awarded the title of the least free state. The study ranked states based on public policies that impact individual freedoms in the economic, social and personal spheres, the report said.

QOL score: +1

Comment: Yeah, but does South Dakota have the cool motto?

Help for cleanups

U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen announced that New Hampshire was awarded \$1.8 million in grants from the EPA Brownfields Program to help restore sites contaminated by hazardous substances. Sites in Bristol and Concord, as well as the Capital Regional Development Council, received grants. The Council was awarded \$1 million to create a revolving loan fund for cleanup activities and community outreach programs at contaminated sites throughout central and southern New Hampshire. The city of Concord will receive a \$598,670 grant to help clean three lots at the former Allied Leather Tannery in the 2700 block of East Street in Penacook Village. Bristol will receive \$200,000 to assist in the cleanup of the Mica Building at 8 Central St.

QOL score: +1

Comment: "These cleanups are badly needed, and these loans are vital to getting them done," said Stephen Heavener, executive director of Capitol Regional Development Council, in a press release.

The Sox know it gets better

Many celebrities have been creating online "It Gets Better" videos, which are intended to help LGBT youth (www.itgetsbetter.org). A 12-year-old from Nashua, Sam Maden, decided to get the Boston Red Sox to join in and started a petition asking his favorite sports team to make a video, according to ESPN.com. Soon the petition spread through New England all the way to California and Hawaii. Now the Red Sox are producing the video.

QOL score: +1

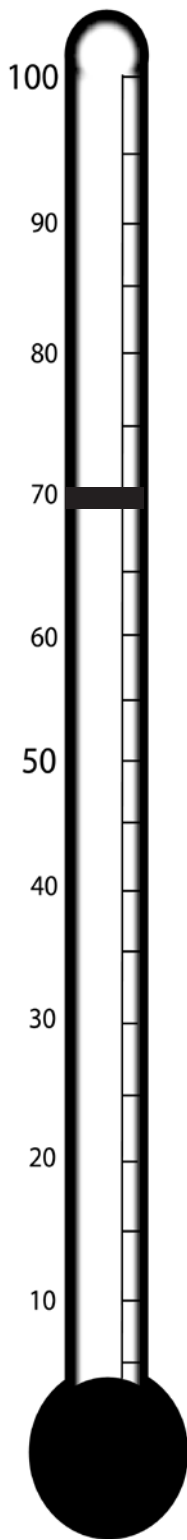
Comment: "We are proud of dedicated Red Sox fans like 12-year-old Sam Maden who have taken the courageous step of publicly standing up against bullying of LGBT youth," the Red Sox said in a press release.

QOL score: 66

Net change: +4

QOL this week: 70

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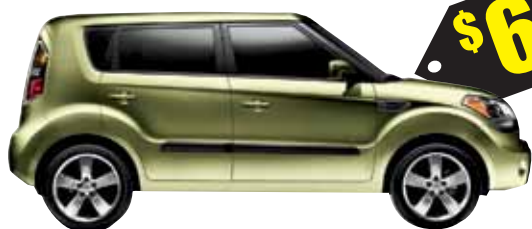
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DAVE LONG'S HIPPO SPORTS



Trouble Bruin for opponents this spring

So I've been watching, even following, hockey during the Bruins' fabulous run to the Stanley Cup Finals. And guess what? It's been fun.

I haven't watched hockey all through the playoffs in this manner since the Rangers of New York ran through it all to win in 1994. Fabulous semi-finals series and escape with the New Jersey Devils in seven and another great seven-game series with the Vancouver Canucks in their last appearance in the finals until this year. That was a series with diminutive Russian **Pavel Bure** and when the great leader **Mark Messier** won his sixth Cup. I loved hockey that year, but I haven't watched much since.

Now that doesn't mean I don't have some hockey blood in me, but it was in a reservoir deep below the surface until this spring.

I used to watch the Schaffer Circle of Sports when my parents finally started letting me stay home alone when they went out on a Saturday night. Not a wrecking-my-brother's-tarantula-case *Home Alone* stay. It was getting to see hockey at the only time in the week it was on TV back in the day. So I was enthralled with New York Rangers **Andy Bathgate**, **Rod Gilbert**, **Eddie Giacomin** and their coach, **Emile Francis**. This was during the days of the original six, so you knew all visitors — like Montreal — who had players with the coolest names, like **Yvon Cournoyer**, **Henri Richard**, the **Mahovich brothers** (first Peter and later Frank) and the regal **Jean Beliveau**, who always reminded me of **Joe DiMaggio**. Detroit had cool uniforms and my first favorite player, **Gordie Howe**. Chicago had **Stan Mikita** and **Bobby Hull** and the goalie **Glen Hall** had the same name as the best pitcher on my baseball team, which I also thought was cool. But my favorite in those days was Toronto with those classic uniforms they still have today and where Bathgate eventually got traded, much to my chagrin.

And there were the Bruins who, after being bad early in my time in hockey, started getting good just as the Rangers did as well. And by the time I moved up here the Bruins frenzy, and I do mean frenzy, far more than now, was in full bloom. That team was loved here more deeply than the 2004 Red Sox. **Bob Ryan** said as much

in the Globe the other day in saying that Bruins team was easy to like. Although to that I would say, *au contraire mon ami*. Not if you were on the other side.

Personally, I hated those Bruins and so did everyone I knew. Not **Bobby Orr** of course, in the way most of the Yankees-haters in the Nation don't hate **Derek Jeter**. And you don't need me to tell you how truly great he was. I also liked **Espo** and not just for inspiring the greatest car bumper sticker I've ever seen, which said "JESUS SAVES — Esposito scores on the rebound!" He was a swashbuckling, immovable monster in front of the crease just tipping shots in. But the rest of those guys — yikes. **Wayne Cashman**, **Derek Sanderson** and especially **Johnny (pie) McKenzie** were chippy, cheap shot artists who were easy to hate. Of course that made them lovable to Bruins fans, at least until Cashman took that act to Madison Square Garden as a Ranger and then they suddenly hated him. You know how that goes.

It all changed a bit when **Harry Sinden** stunned everyone by trading the beloved Espo to the hated Rangers in a deal that apparently is still an open wound for Espo 40 years later if you heard his comments leading up to the Tampa series. That deal brought back two guys from the Rangers I loved, **Brad Park** and classy **Jean Ratelle**, who assimilated to black and gold quite nicely to help **Terry O'Reilly** and company stay in the mix, until **Ray Bourque** and **Cam Neely** came along to do the same. All of which I watched and enjoyed.

I'll also tell you the single greatest sporting event I've witnessed was the Canada-Russia hockey series in September 1972. Thanks to being held at the height of the Cold War it was spectacular, dramatic, gut-wrenching and even seemed to put our way of life in the balance if the communist Red Army hockey team won the series. Far, far better than 1980's Miracle on Ice or any five Super Bowls combined. That the 4-3-1 series win came after a dramatic Esposito-led comeback made it all the better.

So, to folks who've asked me to write more about hockey through the years, I do like hockey. But, as the Bruins declined and the NHL expanded to ridiculous backwater cities like Columbus, Ohio, and Nashville it became too hard to follow. So I drifted away — until now.

LONGSHOTS

Well actually it started with the 2010 Olympics when the gold-medal game between Canada and the U.S. reminded me just what a thrilling game hockey is at its highest level. And then came this year, where I can't say I'm in love with the Bruins, but I am watching and enjoying it. Some would say I'm a bandwagon jumper, but since I'm just along for the ride, I don't think so.

What's to like about them most for me is, like the 2004 Red Sox, they got off the canvas after a devastating loss to make this run. One which started amid media and fan derision after they blew home ice advantage to go down 0-2 to nemesis forever Montreal in the process, to winning in six as the bandwagon jumpers hopped back on. Then they rolled on to sweep Philly to avenge 2010's historic up 3-0 collapse and then they hung in vs. Tampa Bay in a series they could have lost. All of it is something to admire.

Second is seeing the coach under fire from second guessers like the got-to-criticize-everybody-and-everything **Michael Felger** doing so well. I'll grant you, **Claude Julien** does look a little like befuddled NFL'er **Wade Phillips**, but I like him and I'm not even sure why. Probably because Felger doesn't. But, the meager power play aside, I'd say the critics have it shoved back down their throat. Not that they're smart enough to know that or classy enough to say he was right. But, as **Jimmy Myers** used to say, "When you've got the 50k you've got the 50k."

Beyond that, I wonder why the Bruins don't attack on the power play more, rather than looking to make the perfect pass in looking more tepid than Mitt Romney's responding to why Obamacare looks so much like Romneycare. I wonder how NHL Commissioner **Gary (you want to make a) Bettman** could not have suspended **Alex Burrows** after the incident in Game 1 — leading to the biting double-OT loss in Game 2. And now I know where the heck on the dial Versus actually is too. All in all a pleasant spring.

So this is what writing about hockey is like. Who knew?

Dave Long can be e-mailed at dlong@hippo-press.com. He hosts *Saturday Morning Sports* with Dave Long from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays on WGAM — The Game, 1250-AM in Manchester and 900-AM in Nashua.



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Andy Bathgate: Third-favorite player growing up. Played for the Rangers, Maple Leafs and Red Wings. Led the league once in goals and twice in points while scoring 349 goals and 973 points. Won one Cup and made eight All-Star games in an NHL career that went from 1953 to 1971 and landed him in the Hall in 1978. Still, it's rumored his lasting impact on pop culture is that the head of a 1960s Washington development company liked the name Bathgate so much he called their new hotel project the Watergate as a tip of the cap to him.

Jean Béliveau: Regal star of the Montreal Canadiens from the 1950s to the early '70s. A two-time goal-scoring champ, 13-time All-Star, and he played on 10 Stanley Cup winners in that time. Retired as third all-time in goals and points scored with 507 and 1,219, though over time he's dropped to 38th in goals and 39th in scoring. Was so good the NHL put him in the Hall the year following his retirement in 1971.

Russia-Canada Series: Tension-filled series played in August and September 1972. It was made more so after Bobby Orr was declared out with an injured knee and Bobby Hull was yanked off the team for defecting to the WHA a few months earlier. Russia took Games 1 (7-3) and 4 (5-3) and with a tie in Game 3 they headed home to Russia for the final four games up 2-1-1. It went to 3-1-1 when the Russians took the first one in mother Russia 5-3. But then thanks to four goals apiece from Phil Esposito and Toronto's Paul Henderson — who got the game-winners in games 7 and 8 — and clutch goaltending by Montreal's Ken Dryden and Phil's brother Tony, Canada came back to win the last three and take the series 4-3-1.

PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF Conway's Thursday is spelled E-S-P-N

The Big Story: Yes, that was 13-year-old **Chloe (north) Conway** of Manchester on ESPN Thursday competing in the Scripps National Spelling Bee against 274 youngsters from all over the country and Puerto Rico. Given my limited abilities in this department, I'd have probably gone out on the first one she got right — simulacrum — in representing the state quite admirably. While she didn't make it to the final round, it was a great accomplishment and one to be proud of any way you spell it.

Sports 101: What two players who threw six each are tied for throwing the most interceptions by a non-quarterback in NFL history?

Justin Time Award: To **Justin Welch**, whose bottom-of-the-seventh, two-out two-run homer capped a comeback from being down 5-0 to let Bedford move into the semi-final round of the state tournament for the second straight with an 8-7 over Coe-Brown, thanks in part to a three-run homer from teammate **Andy Lalonde**, whose three-run homer started the big come back.

Out-of-Town Scores: You think **Carl Crawford** had a rough start? How about Bedford's **Chris Carpenter**? He didn't get his first win until May 10 and stands 1-5 and St. Louis is just 4-9 in his starts. The good news is he has pitched well in his last three starts when he's given up six earned runs and the ERA has dropped from 4.95 to 4.25.

Alumni News: 2011 ended on a disappointing note for ex-Trinity hurler **Garrett Cole** and U-Mass-Lowell when they were eliminated by

Franklin Pierce in East Region NCAA D-II playoffs. But not before the River Hawks' ace in the Cole went the distance in spinning a four-hit beauty to get a 3-1 win that sent Dowling home. The unearned lowered his ERA to an all-time school record 0.82 as he completed the year at 7-1 with a microscopic .161 batting average against and 56 strikeouts in 65.2 innings.

On This Date – June 9: 1901 NY Giants get record 31 hits to beat the Reds 25-13; **1914 Honus Wagner** is second to get 3,000 hits; **1940 P.T. BABY-screaming Dick Vitale** is born; **1946 Mel Ott** is first manger ejected from both games of a doubleheader; **1960 ABC & AFL** sign a 5-year contract that leads to the AFL-NFL merger six years later; **1964 Jack Nicklaus** wins British Open golf tournament; **1966** Five players homer for the Twins in seventh inning as they beat the As 9-4; **1973 Secretariat** becomes first Triple Crown winner in 25 years by winning the Belmont Stakes and Pats star **Tedy Bruschi** is born; **1989 Barry Switzer** resigns as head coach at Oklahoma; **1990 Eddie Murray** ties **Mickey Mantle** as baseball's all-time leader in hitting switch-hit homers in the same game at 10.

Sports 101 Answer: The two non-QBs to throw the most interceptions in NFL history are all-time leading rusher Walter Peyton and New York Giant Frank Gifford, who made the Pro Bowl at halfback, defensive back and flanker during his 12-year career in the 1950s and '60s, though he's better-known now as the face of Monday Night Football for 17 years.

The Numbers

3 – hits allowed by **Jake (water) Mellon** as Nashua North sent Central packing in the NHIAA baseball playoffs with a 5-0 win.

5 – hits allowed by Londonderry's **Sam Corey** when the Lancers eliminated Nashua South from the NHIAA softball tournament with a 5-0 shutout when **Nicole Williams**' two-run homer was the big hit.

9 – of the first 13 homers hit by Red Sox DH **David Ortiz**

in 2011 have been with no one else on base, leaving him with a paltry 28 RBI, which has him on pace for an odd 39-home-run, 77-RBI stat line over a full season.

19 – strikeouts recorded as Campbell's **Julia Nolan** struck out all but two of the hitters she faced as she no-hit Conant in a 1-0 NHIAA opening-round playoff win.

23 – wins against just seven losses for the Fisher Cats in May, which set a team record for wins in a month, easily eclipsing the 19 they won in

August in the title year of 2004 against 10 losses and again in August 2006 when they were 19-11.

34 – match winning streak for the Bedford boys' tennis team that has now produced two consecutive Division State titles after Tuesday's 5-4 win over Hanover as number one and two players **Mark Hosang (can you see)** and **(50) Myles Utell** each were 8-1 winners in the opening two matches to send them on their way.

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Gangs in New Hampshire?

The answer is more complicated than a simple yes or no. A look at who's here and what's being done about it.

By Adam Coughlin // acoughlin@hippopress.com

A group of eight high school students sat around a conference table one rainy afternoon talking about gangs. These students — seven boys and one girl — said they see gang activity every day. They know gang members who flash gang signs, rep colors and boast about their lifestyle. They have witnessed vandalism, drugs and violence. Many of them believe their city is turning into Lawrence, Mass.

Their city is Nashua.

Yet many others have the opposite assessment of the gang situation in New Hampshire. Turn to any website or message board asking if there are gangs in the Granite State and you are likely to find an all too familiar reply: "If you live in NH, you cannot belong to a gang. It just can't happen. You might as

well belong to the Cow [expletive] gang in Montana or something."

For the fifth year in a row New Hampshire was voted the most livable state in America by CQ Press, and Governor John Lynch recently announced that the state's unemployment rate has dropped below five percent (compared to the national rate of nine percent). There is no denying that New Hampshire is an ideal place to live and raise a family.

Yet it has its issues. One, as identified by law enforcement, school officials and community organizations, is gangs. But does New Hampshire have a gang problem or are there only wannabes mimicking what they see on TV? The answer is somewhere in between.

The truth

“New Hampshire is not L.A., Chicago, New York or Boston,” said Kieran L. Ramsey, the FBI’s Supervisory Special Agent in New Hampshire. “It [gang activity] is not a critical situation. There are no neighborhoods that are impassable. But we’re fooling ourselves to think there are no threats from gangs.”

“There are gangs in New Hampshire,” said Tracey Jackson, the teen individual service director at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua. “However, it is on a much smaller scale than surrounding areas. These are not just a few kids getting together and calling themselves a gang. But no one needs to lock themselves in their room either.”

Gangs have been in New Hampshire since at least the 1970s, when boys came home from Vietnam and used motorcycles to form a counterculture. But only recently, in the last 5 or 6 years, have there been national criminal street gangs starting chapters in New Hampshire.

Five years ago, according to Eric Skillings, Youth Officer 3 at the John H. Sununu Youth Services Center, the National Gang Center toured New Hampshire’s gang hot spots and found there were signs of gang activity, including graffiti and juvenile assaults, especially two-on-one attacks. The National Gang Center differentiated these activities as gang-related as opposed to regular crime. As a result of this street crime and gang violence, the FBI and the Manchester Police Department formed the NH Safe Streets Gang Task Force in 2008, according to Ramsey, who only arrived in New Hampshire in January 2010 but has seen a persistent and consistent gang threat. The NH Safe Streets Gang Task Force now includes New Hampshire State Police, Nashua PD, Hudson PD and Probations.

The issue is spreading. Five years ago, there were gangs in Manchester and Nashua and a few on the seacoast, like in Rochester, according to Skillings. Now, he said, there are gangs in Concord, the Lakes Region and as far north as Berlin. Manchester, because of its size, and Nashua, because of its proximity to the border, are the two hubs for gang activity in the state. Last year, the first-ever gang symposium was held, in which 150 law enforcement members received gang training.

“There is great interaction between law enforcement,” said Sergeant Denis Linehan, who has been with the Nashua Police Department for 17 years. “We investigate, suppress and keep numbers from growing. It is no different than talking with kids about drugs. We’re happy with how it has progressed.”

What gangs are here?

A criminal street gang as defined by Section 651:6 of the Revised State Statutes means “a formal or informal ongoing organization, association, or group of 3 or more persons, which has as one of its primary objectives or activities the commission of criminal activity, whose members share a common name, identifying sign, symbol, physical marking, style of dress, or use of hand signals....” It also must have commissioned, solicited commission of or



Officers spend time educating youngsters. Courtesy photo.

attempted certain criminal activities within the last three years.

Since 2005, there have been a total of 46 different gangs identified within the New Hampshire State Prison System, according to statistics provided by Sergeant Daniel Hammer, Investigator for the New Hampshire Department of Corrections. Hammer said those gangs include white supremacists, black supremacists, motorcycle gangs and criminal street gangs. Since 2005, according to Hammer, there have been a total of 767 suspected gang members in the state prisons.

In Nashua, for example, there are at least 10 documented criminal street gangs, all of which are national gangs with New Hampshire chapters. Some of these chapters operate out of both Manchester and Nashua. Detective Jeff Harrington, gang intelligence officer for the Manchester Police Department, said there are pockets of the city in which there are known gangs buying and selling weapons and drugs.

When referring to gangs, one must distinguish first between criminal street gangs, like the Latin Kings, and outlaw motorcycle gangs, like the Hells Angels. Motorcycle gangs have a longer history in the state. Both Ramsey and Harrington cited an incident last year outside a pizza place in Manchester: an innocent bystander, only 18, got caught in the crossfire of an intra-motorcycle gang rivalry and was shot and injured. Now the pizza place has signs that say “No Colors Allowed.”

Within criminal street gangs there are also distinctions. Marty Boldin, director of Youth Services at City of Manchester, said there are different types of gangs: national and neighborhood.

Neighborhood gangs are what come to mind when most people think about New Hampshire gangs. Boldin said these types of gangs have been in the state for years but cycle in and out because they are loosely structured. This could be as unsophisticated as a group of kids who wear purple and call themselves “The Purples.”

Within national gangs there are ones that,

for lack of a better word, are like franchises. There is no major hierarchy and so they are easier to join. Ramsey said one of the NH Safe Streets Task Force’s first major cases was arresting and indicting more than 20 Bloods on the West Side of Manchester. Harrington said the public arrests of those West Side Bloods, and the subsequent lengthy federal prison sentences, have done a good job of discouraging gangs.

But then there are other national gangs in which an absolute blessing is needed to join. This occurs either when gang members from out of state move into New Hampshire or when gangs that began fresh in New Hampshire reach out to chapters in other states. These gangs have weekly and monthly meetings, and leadership from the national chapter comes in and checks on activity. Ramsey said often a percentage of the take from criminal activities is sent back to the national organization. Linehan said the distressing part of having national gangs is, if in the unlikely event gang war broke out, they would have reserves to call in from out of state.

A combination of all these types of gangs operates within the state.

Sergeant Linehan, who now leads the Problem Oriented Policing (POP) unit, a plain-clothes unit that acts as an intermediary between patrolmen and detectives, said within the 10 documented criminal street gangs in Nashua there are roughly 125 members. Linehan said over the past six months that number has gone up every week. Linehan cautioned that isn’t because more and more people are joining gangs but because police are getting better at identifying members.

Identifying gang members

Changes in state statutes in the last few years have made it easier for police to identify gang members. According to Section 651:6 of the Revised State Statutes, a “Criminal street gang member means an individual to whom 2 or more of the following apply.” The list includes admitting to criminal street gang membership, being identified as a member by a law enforcement officer, parent, guardian, or documented reliable informant, living in or visiting a criminal street gang’s areas and adopting their style of dress, hand signs, etc.

Linehan said this database grows when, for example, an officer pulls over a car for speeding. The officer may notice the men (there are no documented female gang members in Nashua, though there are some women known to associate with gang members) are wearing known gang colors. The officer will note this in the report and send it along to Linehan and his team (he has four officers who work under him). They will do additional research and if the men are found to be gang members, they will be added to the file. This is made easier because, unlike most criminals, gang members are often awash with bravado and wear recognizable colors, make hand signs, have tattoos, and spray-paint certain graffiti to make their presence known.

Linehan said the first sign of gang activity in a city is usually graffiti. There is a difference between gang graffiti and tagging, which is another issue altogether. Officers are trained



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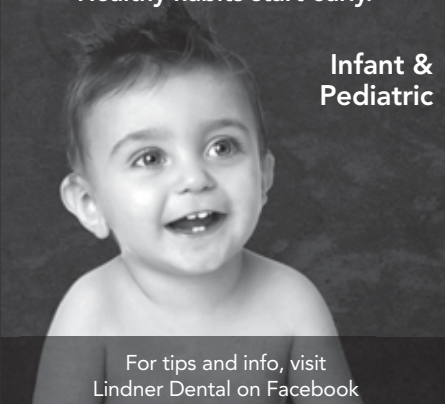
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- Laura Richmond, (pictured left) with her oncologist, S. Gautami Rao, MD

Oncologist Gautami Rao, MD, immediately arranged for Laura to see a genetic counselor and to obtain a second opinion from breast cancer specialists at the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center. After consulting with her medical team in both Nashua and Boston, Laura chose to have her surgery and follow-up treatment close to home in Nashua.



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to identify certain symbols within graffiti. For example, a pitchfork may represent Gang A (law enforcement officials are hesitant to give specific names, as they don't want to give press to certain gangs and not others). If Linehan sees that, he will know Gang A is operating in the city. If he sees an upside down pitchfork, he will know that it is done in disrespect and will know Gang B is feuding with Gang A. When this happens, there is a chance of escalated violence.

All law enforcement officials interviewed encouraged the public to report any of these behaviors to the police. It is better to err on the side of caution.

Those state statutes do not expressly say it is illegal to be part of a gang. They deal more with sentencing. If you are known to be in a gang, and then you commit a crime in furtherance of the gang, your sentence can double.

Crimes

What kind of crimes are these gangs committing?

Detective Harrington, who is also a member of the NH Safe Streets Gang Task Force, deals with gang issues every day. He said there are pockets of gangs that sell drugs on the east side of Manchester and others that sell them on the west, and both know not to step on each other's turf.

One of the easiest ways to fund a gang is through the selling of drugs, which is why NH Safe Streets Gang Task Force works so closely with DEA, ATF and the New Hampshire Attorney General's office. Ramsey said cocaine, heroin and prescription opiates are the drugs most frequently seen. He also said there is buying and selling of weapons. Linehan was hesitant to give exact statistics, but he felt comfortable saying his unit dealt with five to 10 gang-related issues, which can be as simple as threatenings, every week. Linehan said he is not seeing a lot of turf wars dealing with narcotics, prostitution and stolen property. Instead he sees issues of reputation, and so crimes like assaults and home invasions tend to be between gang members. With this there is often retaliation, and since the victims are gang members, they do not often report the crimes. A 2009 shooting in Nashua between two rival gangs, the Trinitarios and the Gangster Disciples, underscored how these rivalries could escalate.

Those Nashua students said they have seen fights that included weapons — the machete being the weapon of choice in Nashua — and vandalism. However, the students did say this violence had little impact on them and the fact that these gangs operated at all had little influence on their day-to-day lives. In fact, it seems the vast majority of issues with gangs involve only gang members.

"Non-gang members are typically not the target; however, there have been cases of mistaken identity and wrong addresses," Linehan said. "The majority of the problems, for non-gang members, are intimidation and quality of life."

Why they come

The arrival of national gangs is a reflection on modern culture and New Hampshire's own legendary quality of life. New Hampshire has benefited over the years from out-of-state businesses seeing their saturated markets and coming to New Hampshire for growth opportunities.

The same is true for gangs, according to Thomas Harrington, parole officer, and nephew of Detective Jeff Harrington.

Amped up law enforcement activity such as

New Hampshire has seen in the last five has been going on for decades in states south of our border. Harrington said gangs look around at the sophisticated police operations in their state and think they'd rather try their luck with decidedly smaller police forces in New Hampshire.

When they get here, driving on the same highways — Interstates 93 and 95 and Route 3 — as legitimate businessmen, they find incentive. The fact that New Hampshire doesn't have a huge gang problem makes it susceptible to having a gang problem.

"No one in New Hampshire is entrenched, and so others may have their own aspirations," Ramsey said.

He said hardened gang members from elsewhere can come to New Hampshire and try to establish themselves and take over the relatively vacant market. Detective Harrington said this was what was happening with the Bloods, before the Task Force dismantled them. He said that is why these high-profile arrests are so important. Not only do they eliminate the immediate threat but they also send a clear message to others.

"Gang members hop on the same highways as the rest of us," Ramsey said.

Then there are other gang members, often from Spanish-language culture gangs, according to Skillings, who want to start over in New Hampshire but instead bring their old lifestyle with them. Linehan noted that the Trinitarios is a national gang, started in Rikers Island, which is New York City's main jail complex. A group of Latinos, predominantly Dominican inmates, formed to protect themselves. Two members from Providence moved to the Nashua area. Word got out and members of another gang, Gangster Disciples, began harassing and assaulting the two men from Providence. In response, the two men began recruiting other Dominican men in the city. They formed their own chapter in 2007 and now have around 25 members.

Such transiency is not uncommon. Jackson said many of the kids in the club have moved from Lowell or Lawrence, stopped in Nashua, moved to Manchester and then back. Often such movement is caused by a lack of economic opportunities.

"The distinction between rural and urban areas is becoming gray," said Robert Eckstein, a lecturer at the University of New Hampshire. This is a result of our reliance on motor vehicles. And that is just physical movement. With the Internet, gang fantasies can spread like wildfire. "Now rural areas can model their behavior off what they see on TV and in music as attractive options," Eckstein said. "Before multimedia, you didn't know what teens were doing in L.A. and Chicago."

Jackson said the Internet is big for gangs. She said kids watch fights on YouTube and record fights on their phones. This has allowed the behavior to spread quickly. Jackson was also shocked by how blatant the pictures are online and how much gang members talk about their activities on their MySpace profiles.

"I don't do anything wrong and I'm still a private person," Jackson said. "I don't get it."

Sergeant Hammer said there has been an explosion of gang visibility in popular culture. Kids can watch shows like *Gangland* on the History Channel and *L.A. Gang Wars* on National Geographic. Corporal Tim Coulombe, vice president of the New England Chapter of the East Coast Investigators Association and an investigator with the New Hampshire Department of Corrections, said an episode of *So You Think You Can Dance?* had a couple wearing all red, flashing the "West Coast" gang sign and

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Graffiti is often the first indicator of gangs. Courtesy of the FBI.

dancing to a rap performed by a member of the Bloods.

“The bad-boy culture has gone mainstream,” Coulombe said.

So mainstream in fact that you can purchase a Latin Kings T-shirt online for \$23.45.

With all these images and the fact that New Hampshire does not have a long violent history of gangs, Jackson said kids here can romanticize what it means to be in a gang.

“New Hampshire is so far removed from the real gang lifestyle that gangs are often glorified,” Jackson said. “They don’t see the destruction and devastation that happens 10 years down the road.”

However, like the highways, communication works both ways. Coulombe said he regularly attends seminars and conferences in other states. New Jersey, for example, experienced what New Hampshire is going through now two or three years ago. New Jersey officers can share with New Hampshire officers what they have seen. This allows New Hampshire to stay ahead of the issue. For now.

It also allows police departments to keep their overhead low. Detective Harrington is the only member of the Manchester Police Department who devotes all his time to gangs, according to Chief David Mara. Of course it is an issue that stretches across the entire department when needed, and in those times Harrington acts as a coordinator. Because Harrington is also a member of the NH Safe Streets Gang Task Force he has access to its resources as well. Ramsey said the FBI has a long history in New Hampshire and has a variety of task forces, besides those involved with gangs. Linehan said when his POP unit was established in 1997 it was not intended to work on gangs. But as things have progressed its members have dedicated more time and effort to the issue. However, they do deal with a variety of other crimes; for example, they recently brought down a chop shop that was operating in the city.

The ability for gangs to spread is why the issue is not only a problem for cities.

“It’s an issue that could spread to other small areas,” Jackson said

Who joins a gang?

With much of the crime being directed toward rival gang members, why join a gang in the first place? And why, without any major economic incentives, as there isn’t a huge drug or arms business these gangs are fighting over, do rival gangs dislike each other so much?

Thaddeus Piotrowski, a professor of sociology at UNH Manchester, wrote in an e-mail that “Generally speaking gang delinquency takes place in sub-cultural settings where the role models are deviant and the prevalent value systems favor the breaking of the law.”

The students at the Boys & Girls Club agreed, saying it’s easier to join a gang if you’ve grown up with family members already in one. They said they have seen kids as young as 10 but most likely they’re 14 or 15 when they start to consider joining. The students have never felt pressure to join a gang and said the decision is ultimately up to the individual, but when pressure comes from the family it can be a difficult temptation to resist.

“The biggest lie they tell is that a gang becomes your family,” Ramsey said. “As soon as someone is arrested they all start pointing fingers at their buddies and the vast majority cooperate with law enforcement.”

But it is difficult to explain that to a youngster who has limited connection with his family. Jackson said about one-third of the kids at the Boys & Girls Club (about 200 come through every day) live in single-family homes or with people other than their biological parents.

“Teenagers feel they are not understood and misrepresented,” Jackson said.

There is also the search for identity. Jackson said some of the members who join gangs are minorities who move to New Hampshire and find a demographic they were not anticipating. The most recent census data indicate that 95.3 percent of the 2009 population was white.

“In addition, like a family, the gang solution provides one with a sense of belonging and a support system to back it up,” Piotrowski wrote.

At its most basic, a gang is similar to any club. It is the violence that distinguishes it. Jackson has been at the Boys & Girls Club for nearly 10 years and has seen young boys who were best friends now feuding because they’re in rival gangs. How does such a drastic change occur?

When you’re talking about abnormal or violent behavior, you are rarely dealing with one predictor, according to Eckstein, who teaches a forensic psychology class at the University of New Hampshire. Typically, the more unusual or dangerous the behavior, the greater the variety of contributing factors.

The first is the general desire to be part of something. Eckstein used the terms “in-group” and “out-group.” Everyone wants to be connected to other people; such connections provide clout and recognizability. This is why there are cliques in high school and even offices.

There are a lot of groups adolescents can form that aren’t gangs. But it is at this age, as teens and young adults, that human beings are at their most aggressive. Teens like finding venues in which they can explore their aggres-

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sive attitudes, according to Eckstein.

Gangs also provide a certain level of anonymity. This goes with the social phenomenon of “diffusion of responsibility,” which means the more people there are, the more anonymous you can become and the less responsible you feel for group activities. When that happens — for example in social groups on the Internet — your moral compass goes down and you can explore your darker side. Even with all the boasting and bravado — wearing colors, flashing gang signs, etc. — the person’s individuality is being stifled and they are more overtly identified as a gang member, according to Eckstein.

Teens who are likely to join gangs are usually quite vulnerable and don’t have a strong foundation of love and support. When they do finally get some, which may be the first time they’ve received such attention, they feel protected and indebted. Quickly, your enemy becomes my enemy.

While this may seem hard to believe — kids fighting other kids simply because they wear a different color — Eckstein said it is not much different than blind nationalism or even, yes, Red Sox vs. Yankees.

“I’m from New York and am a big Mets fan,” Eckstein said. “Sometimes I high-five people I’ve never met before just because we like the Mets.”

Eckstein cited a study in England in which subjects were put in perilous situations at a sporting match. The researchers found people were more likely to help someone if he was wearing the jersey of the soccer team they supported, and less likely to help a person wearing a rival jersey.

While this is very black and white, Eckstein said developmentally this is where adolescents are.

Getting out

Law enforcement will continue to disrupt and dismantle the most violent gangs. Linehan said they do this through intelligence gathering, information sharing with other law enforcement and federal agencies and investigations. Ramsey said the NH Safe Streets Gang Task Force employs what is known as the Enterprise Theory of Investigation (ETI), which combines short-term, street-level enforcement activity with more sophisticated techniques like consensual monitoring, financial analysis and Title III wire intercepts. The point of this, according to information provided by the FBI, is to “root out and prosecute the entire gang, from the street level thugs and dealers up through the crew leaders and ultimately the gang’s command structure.” These efforts will put gang members behind bars. If the FBI is involved in an indictment, Ramsey said, the guilty person is looking at 10 to 40 years in federal prison.

Unfortunately, prisons can be a breeding ground for gangs. According to information provided by Sergeant Hammer, “278 suspected gang members are currently incarcerated in New Hampshire State Prisons.” The total population in those prisons is 2,443 inmates, so the percentage of New Hampshire inmates who are gang members is roughly 10 percent — close to the national average.

It wasn’t until five years ago that Corporal Coulombe started keeping a database of incoming inmates and trying to determine whether they were affiliated with a gang. Coulombe said over the past five years he has not seen an increase of suspected gang members but he has seen an increase in violent behavior within the prisons including extortion, assaults, forcing

people to smuggle in drugs and charging rent for staying in a particular unit.

In the Northern New Hampshire Correctional Facility in Berlin, for example, there are 620 prisoners. These are divided into eight units for general population and one unit for closed custody. Within those units there are 60 to 68 inmates. Hammer said officials try and keep fellow gang members separated within these units so no one gang runs a particular unit.

Coulombe said within prison, prisoners make subtle changes to their uniform, like taking out the buttons and then sewing in colored thread (they are allowed a sewing kit) that represents the colors of their gang. This is done for intimidation and seems to work. While he couldn’t verify exactly how often this happens, Coulombe said inmates join gangs in prison. They do this most often for protection. Often, he said, a prisoner may be a neighborhood gang member who is then absorbed by a national gang.

“They want the numbers,” Hammer said.

This is why separating suspected gang members is so critical. Skillings, the Youth Officer 3 at the John H. Sununu Youth Services Center, said he began asking new arrivals five to 10 questions on day one and from those he can determine whether the youngster is in a gang, is an associate of a gang or is just trying to act tough. Skillings said 70 percent of kids who come to the John H. Sununu Youth Services Center are purported to be gang members. He said realistically, after an initial screening, that number is more like 40 percent, which is still high. However, since he began separating the kids, he said, there has not been a gang-related incident within the walls in two years.

Skillings also said the Center has a zero tolerance policy: if he sees any drawings, any hand signs, etc., the detainee will go directly to his room. Skillings said within the facility he not only maintains order but acts as a counselor and works with two other people to teach the kids marketable skills.

“What’s hard,” said Tom Harrington, “is that when they get out, they go right back to the same area. To the same friends and families. To the same environment. To be successful, they would have had to really absorb the education offered to them in prison.”

Police actions seem to be working, according to the kids from the Boys & Girls Club. They felt gang activity had decreased because people had been locked up. One young man said gang activity is still occurring; however, now it is quieter and more calm, which shows at least some level of sophistication. Of course, part of the decline is because people grow up.

Yet growing up with a history of being in a gang can be easier said than done. The kids said many of the older guys in gangs would tell you if they could do it over again, they wouldn’t join a gang. But when they were young, they wanted to be “big” and get their name out. So they joined a gang. Some have been convicted of felonies and served jail time. Many try to go straight after that but find it hard to get a job with a felony on their record and so they return to the gangs.

But it is not difficult to physically leave a gang.

“This is Nashua; it’s not hard to leave a gang,” one student said.

It can, however, be difficult to escape your past. It is breaking this cycle, along with the cycles of broken families, poverty and teenage angst, that is the real challenge. Roughly 98 percent of people who go to jail get out and must re-engage with society, according to Jeffrey Lyons, public information officer for the



Kids often seek out the Boys & Girls Club as a positive influence. Adam Coughlin photo.

New Hampshire Department of Corrections. The key is to get people to engage. Where do you begin?

What can be done?

Jackson said the place to start is the family base, which is why the Boys & Girls Club has started incorporating family fun nights, where they show a movie and have popcorn. As simple as that sounds, sometimes it is the only time some of these families spend time together.

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua has also launched a new gang prevention program, funded by a grant from the state and national Boys & Girls Club, which tracks the progress of kids who have been identified as at risk of joining a gang. The situations vary. Some kids display awful behavior. Others are excellent kids but have a close family member in a gang. These kids come by referral from school, police, community organizations, etc. Jackson was hesitant to give an exact number of kids in the program, as they do not know they have been tagged, but she said there were more than 50. Staff members are given five to 10 students whose attendance at club and school they track. When an issue comes up, they can push the student in the right direction. She said the club is great because it has something for everyone.

But these are after-school activities. Youngsters spend much more of their time in classrooms. Fortunately or not, most real gang members do not stay long in school. The students from the Nashua High Schools said most of the kids in school only pretend to be in gangs. But authorities are just as concerned about so called “wannabes.”

“We often say a wannabe is a gonnabe,” Skillings said. “If you keep challenging a guy’s manhood, he’s going to do something to prove himself.”

Dr. Thomas J. Brennan, superintendent of the Manchester School District, said he was cognizant of individuals organizing and participating in certain “gang-like” activities.

“It isn’t pervasive, but there are pockets and we are in tune with them and are paying attention,” Brennan said. “Just because there aren’t gang shootings doesn’t mean we should turn our heads and give a little wink and a nod and say they’re just kids.”

Boldin, director of Youth Services at City of Manchester, doesn’t like to use the word “gangs” as it is too limiting. He prefers “disconnected” youth. He said if a student is disconnected from home, school and community then he is more likely to engage in risky behavior and/or join a gang. His office works with the school district to connect the students

with positive influences.

“If you’re expecting open drug deals and drive-by shootings, you won’t find that in New Hampshire,” Boldin said. “But you will find disconnected youth. If you can connect them, then you have a solution not just for gangs but for other issues as well.”

He said his office has worked with the school district, the mayor’s office, the police department and social organizations. Linehan said he is working hand in hand with the Boys & Girls Club. Chief Mara said the Manchester Police Department has started programs in elementary schools, trying to make children feel comfortable around police at an early age. Chief Mara said kids are looking for role models and they often find them in the classroom. Boldin said employees in the school district go above and beyond when it comes to helping young people navigate through a much more complex world than the one he grew up in.

Such efforts can leave schools stretched thin. “We are no longer an educational institution,” Brennan said. “We are a social institution. And we’re doing more than we ever thought. And as there are more reductions of budgets, specifically Health and Human Services, our role will continue to expand.”

The schools will continue to provide what they can, but their number one priority is supposed to be academic development — though they are charged with the whole child.

At some point, the burden must spread to the community, an avenue Brennan feels people have prematurely given up on. Brennan said in the past, communities were more interconnected. There was intergenerational support, which he said is coming back.

Brennan said he recently saw three young people at a convenience store during the day and asked them what they were doing and weren’t they supposed to be in school? He said he often does this, as does Mayor Ted Gatsas, and the reaction is usually positive. Such efforts have no cost and have great benefits.

Jackson said looking at the problem not solely as a gang issue but as a breakdown that leads youth to destructive behavior means no resources are wasted. The kinds of positive influences and support that help youngsters avoid joining gangs are beneficial, even if gangs aren’t an issue.

“New Hampshire is an excellent place to live,” Jackson said. “But that doesn’t mean families are perfect.”

“Sometimes all you have to do is introduce a positive activity,” Boldin said. “Often times kids don’t even know those are available.”

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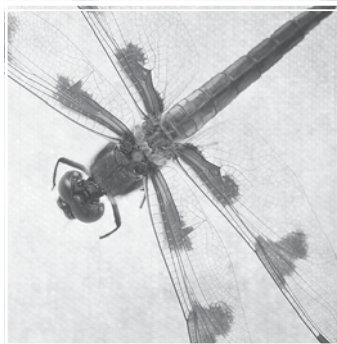
Sunday, June 12

The Nashaway Chapter of NH Audubon hosts a free walk from 6 to 11 a.m. to search for flora and fauna at Benson Park in Hudson. Formerly the site of Benson's Wild Animal Farm, Benson Park is now officially open as a park for passive recreation. Join this free walk led by bird and plant experts. Plant and wildlife enthusiasts of all interests and abilities are welcome. Meet in the main parking lot off Kimball Hill Road. To register and for directions contact Richard Bielawski 429-2537 or rbielawski@mac.com. For more information about Benson Park, go to www.hudsonnh.gov/boards/bensons.



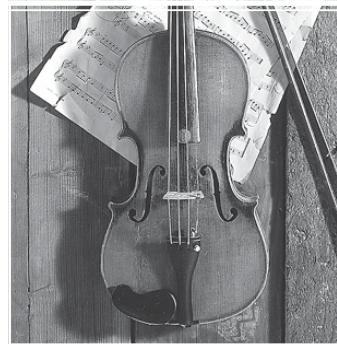
Thursday, June 9

Talented local actors present *Vignettes of Life* at 7 p.m. at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road in Hudson, 886-6030, www.rodgerslibrary.org. Conceived by Manchester actress Laura Prior, *Vignettes* has a cast of young adults who use show tunes classic and new to describe the roller coaster that is modern life. There is no admission fee but attendees are asked to consider bringing donations for a local food pantry. See vignettesoflife.org.



Saturday, June 11

Join Laura Deming, New Hampshire Audubon senior biologist, as she guides a free walking tour of Ponemah Bog in Amherst at 10 a.m. Participants will meet the bog's distinctive plants and wildlife and learn about the bog's natural history. Volunteers are also needed to walk the Bog once a month and report their findings. For more information, contact Jack Gleason at 673-3177 or jgleason10@netzero.net.



Sunday, June 12

Dave Bateman will lead an English country dance with live musical accompaniment from 5:30 to 7:45 p.m. at Presidential Oaks, 200 Pleasant St., Concord. Beginners and singles are welcome. Admission is \$8. Call 934-2543 or visit nhecads.org.



Sunday, June 12

Pontine Theatre's annual New Castle Village Walk and Garden Tour is from 1 to 4:30 p.m. This is a self-guided rain-or-shine walking tour of private gardens in historic New Castle. Buy advance tickets, \$15, at the Discover Portsmouth Center (at Middle & Islington streets), Portsmouth Gardens (1000 Woodbury Ave.), or www.pontine.org. On tour day, tickets may be purchased for \$20 at the Coast Guard Station.

Free: Guitar concert

The Borders store at 76 Fort Eddy Road in Concord, 224-1255, presents Music Night with Daniel Chauvin on Friday, June 10, at 7 p.m. Relax in the café and listen to the unique guitar style of this modern-day troubadour.

Cheap: CD release party

The JT Wildman Jazz Band will hold a CD release party on Saturday, June 11, from 7 to 11 p.m. in Eagle Square Atrium, Eagle Square, Concord. They'll perform music from the newly released CD *Live at the SuperFine*, recorded live in November 2010 at the Superfine Restaurant in Brooklyn, N.Y. Jim Wildman (trombone) from Brooklyn will be joined by the New Hampshire musicians in the band, Tim Wildman (trumpet and vocals) and Whit Symmes (piano and vocals), along with the band's vocalist from New York, noted cabaret singer Phyllis Pastore. Local jazz musicians Jock Irvine (bass), Chuck Booth (drums), Rob Daisy (clarinet), and BJ Johnson (guitar) will add their talents to round out the band. Admission is a \$10 donation at the door; there will be a cash bar and CDs will be available for \$10 each. For more information e-mail Tim Wildman at wildhov@comcast.net.

Splurge: Urban birdwatching by Segway!

For \$79, you can take a spin around Manchester's Dorrs Pond on a Segway, guided by Director of Conservation Carol Foss of the New Hampshire Audubon Society, looking for birds as you go. The morning begins with Segway training and indoor practice at the Segway Tours office at 42 Hanover St. in Manchester. The group will travel together by Segway to Livingston Park and circumnavigate Dorrs Pond. Group size is limited. Call 218-8150 to make a reservation. The next tour will be held Saturday, June 18, starting at 9 a.m.; additional dates are Friday, July 15; Tuesday, Aug. 30 (led by Angie Krysiak of the Massabesic Audubon Center), and Friday, Sept. 9.



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Crafts for a new generation

Locals debut a hip, younger fair

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

When Jessica Gilcreast and Heather Marr looked around the state for a place to sell their crafts, they couldn't find an appropriate venue. Sure, there were a lot of craft fairs, but none had the youthful vibe they were looking for. So they started their own and are now on the hunt for like-minded artists and crafters to join them.

"Not Your Grandma's Craft Fair" will make its official debut in November at McDonough Elementary School in Manchester, and until then Gilcreast and Marr are trying to rally the troops and make sure the event is a huge success. The works don't have to necessarily be created by young people but should appeal to them.

The desire for such a day began when Gilcreast, who is a school librarian, found out that a factory was throwing away unusable felt.

"As a librarian, I am always on the hunt for something free," Gilcreast said. "So I brought it to school."

But it wasn't until Gilcreast was home on maternity leave that she had some free time on her hands. She wondered what she could do

with all that the felt. Her friend, Marr, whom she met through the police department as they are both wives of police officers, had the answer: let's make crafts. The two had bonded through their mutual interest in crafts and so they began working with the felt.

"We started making pillows and other funky things," Gilcreast said. "It wasn't high-end art but people wanted to buy it."

The two went to a local craft fair and set up their table in what Gilcreast described as the basement of a church.

"All of these little old ladies would walk by our table and look at our stuff and say, 'Oh, this is so cute,' and then they'd keep walking," Gilcreast said. "We looked around and asked, 'Where are the young people?'"

It turns out they are online. Gilcreast said many young artists and crafters turn to web-sites like www.etsy.com, an online marketplace for handmade items, to sell their products. The reason: there is no venue for them, according to Gilcreast. She said there is the Bazaar Bizarre in Boston but it is expensive and juried so it is difficult to enter. The two decided to call upon the www.etsy.com community and get fellow crafters and artists off their computers and into

southern New Hampshire.

The idea has spread like wildfire. They've already had more than 15 people commit to the date, months in advance of the event. Gilcreast said these people aren't amateurs. They produce really quality stuff. Such a rapid response to an idea, which has only begun to get out to the public, validates Gilcreast's and Marr's thought that New Hampshire needs this.

"We need to have a young persons' craft fair," Gilcreast said. "Potholders and doilies just don't fit in with what we're trying to sell."

What are they trying to sell?

Gilcreast said many the works would appeal to a younger crowd, such as funky crochet hats with monsters and crazy characters on them.

"A young, cool mom might buy this for her kid," Gilcreast said.

Other items could be funky clutch purses with skulls on them or large hats like the ones seen at the royal wedding. Some of the artists dye their own yarn, which is something that appeals to all generations. And that's the point: Gilcreast and Marr aren't trying to exclude anyone. They want those little old ladies from the church to come to their craft fair. But they also want to include the young, who they feel are not currently being



"Not Your Grandma's Craft Fair" is looking for artists. Courtesy photo.

represented.

In the spirit of inclusion, proceeds of the November event will benefit the Manchester Police Wives Scholarship fund and the McDonough School Arts Department, and there will be a bake sale and craft table to benefit the Manchester Animal Shelter and a concessions stand benefiting the Trinity High Boys basketball team.

Gilcreast said any artist or crafter who thinks "Not Your Grandma's Craft Fair" is a fit should visit www.notyourgrandmascraftfair.org for an application.

20 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

22 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

24 Classical

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ART LISTINGS

Art events

• **FIRST THURSDAYS** The Currier Museum of Art is open late from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. first Thursday of each month with special programs including live music, lectures and film, at 150 Ash St., Manchester. Call 669-6144 ext. 108 or see www.currier.org for tickets.

• **AN ART AFFAIR IN THE COUNTRY** will be held on Sat., June 18, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Harmony Learning Center, 54 Constitution Dr., Bedford. Visit www.manchester-artists.org.

Gallery openings and events

• **FANTASY FICTION AND FABLES** Exhibit will be on display June 9 through July 2 at 119 Gallery, 119 Chlemsford St., Lowell, Mass. There will be a reception on Thurs., June 9, at 7 p.m. Visit www.119gallery.org or call 978-452-8138.

• **FOCUS TOUR:** Transforming Wood: Renaissance Madonnas to Jon Brooks will be held on Fri., June 10, at 1 p.m. at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Visit www.currier.org or call 669-6144.

• **WENDY TURNER** Artist of June at Exeter Fine Crafts, 61 Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. There will be an artist reception on Fri., June 10, 6-8 p.m. Call 778-8282.

• **BUNTY WALSH** A retrospective will be held during June at the Patricia Ladd Carega Gallery, 69 Maple St., Center Sandwich. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. There is an opening reception on Sat., June 11, 5-7 p.m. Call 284-7728 or visit www.patricialaddcarega.com.

• **HAPPY RETURNS** Whimsical

recycled garden art on display Sat., June 11 and Sun., June 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sat., July 23, and Sun., July 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 15 Pine St., Concord. Visit www.happyreturns.biz.

• **MODERN & ABSTRACT** Multi-artist exhibit on display Sat., June 11, 5-8 p.m. at the Old Town Hall Gallery, 1 Front St., Exeter. The event is free. Visit www.exeterarts.org.

• **OPEN HOUSE** at SOPHA, 15 Merrill St., Manchester, on Sat., June 11, 3-6 p.m. Call 584-1492 or visit www.thesopha.com.

• **FUSION OF COLOR, FORM AND LIGHT** Work of Lauren Chuslo-Shur will be on display June and July at the Seacoast Artist Association Gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. There will be an artist reception on Sun., June 12, 1-3 p.m. Call 778-8856 or visit www.seacoastartist.org.

• **STUDENT ART SHOW** will be held June 17 through July 8 at the Kimball Jenkins Estate, 266 North Main St., Concord. There will be an artist reception on Friday, June 17, 5-7 p.m. Visit www.kimballjenkins.com or call 225-3932.

• **JOHN SCHWIND** Work will be on display through June at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. There will be a reception on Sat., June 18, 2-4 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Call 589-4610.

• **A LEAGUE OF OUR OWN** Multi-artist exhibit June 15-October 15 at The Red Door Pottery Studio and Gallery Shop, 44 Government St., Kittery, ME. Call 207-439-5671 or visit www.reddoorpottery.com.

In the galleries

• **2011 SENIOR B.A. & B.F.A. EXHIBITION & 2011 M.F.A. THE-**

SIS EXHIBITION will be on exhibit at the Museum of Art at UNH-Durham. Call 862-3712 or visit unh.edu/moa.

• **ART IN NATURE** Work of multiple artists including Andy Moerlein will be on display through Nov. 15 at Fruitlands Museum, 102 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on weekends. Tickets cost \$12 (\$10 for seniors and students). Call 978-456-3924 or visit www.fruitlands.org.

• **BLEW** Works by Deb Todd Wheeler on display through July 4 at the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, 139 Saint-Gaudens Road, Cornish. Visit www.sgnhs.org.

• **CLICK!** Contemporary Responses to Photographic Masterworks will be on display through June 25 at Sharon Arts Exhibition Gallery, Depot Square, Peterborough. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. The talk is free. Call 924-7676 or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **CULTURAL DIVERSITY:** The Art of Immigrants in the New Manchester. Exhibit will be on display through June as part of Art On the Wall @ City Hall, 1 City Hall Plaza, Manchester. Visit manchester-arts.org.

• **DANIEL BEAUVAIS** Work will be on display through June 30 at the Steez Gallery, 85 W. Pearl St., Nashua. Visit www.thesteegallery.com or call 718-8394.

• **DEGENERATE IMPRESSIONISM** Work of Matthew Grubb will be on display through July 1 at the McLaughlin-Hills Gallery in Portsmouth. Call 319-8306 or visit www.mclaughlin-hillsgallery.com.

• **EXPERIMENTS IN RESTRAINT:** Books Various

Bound. The work of Samuel Feinstein will be on display through June at The Studio, 84 Union Ave., Laconia. Gallery hours are Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 10-3 p.m. Call 455-8008.

• **FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING** Multi-artist exhibit at the Thorne Sagendorph Art Gallery at Keene State College, 229 Main St., Keene. Gallery hours are Wednesday and Thursday, noon-5 p.m., Friday, 3-8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public. Call 358-2720 or visit www.keene.edu/tsag.

• **FOR THE BIRDS** Multi-artist exhibit on display through June 18 at the Brush Gallery & Artists Studios, 256 Market St., Lowell, Mass. Call 978-459-7819 or visit www.thebrush.org.

• **FRANK M. INGALLS** New permanent photography exhibit at the Florence Speare Museum, 5 Abbott St., Nashua. Call 883-0015.

• **GATEWAY GALLERY** Multi-artist exhibit on display through July 29 at Great Bay Community College, 20 Corporate Dr., Portsmouth. Call 427-7641 or visit www.greatbay.edu.

• **GODFREY (JEFF) SLUDER** Work will be on display at the Forest Society's Conservation Center, 54 Portsmouth St., Concord. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 224-9945.

• **HILL, TREE AND CLOUD:** Rural Landscapes in Oil by Christopher Volpe will be on display through June 30 at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis. Call 465-7721 or visit www.christophervolpe.com.

• **ILLUSTRATOR EXHIBIT** Work by several children's book illustrators is on display at the Brush Gallery and Artists Studio, 256 Market St., Low-

In a gallery near you



Chuslo-Shur in Portsmouth

Kensington artist Lauren Chuslo-Shur will be the featured artist for June and July at the Seacoast Artist Association Gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter. Chuslo-Shur blends photographic imagery and digital artistry to create a blend of colors, form and light. Chuslo-Shur has worked as an editor, page designer and freelance writer, founded a monthly publication for women, and earned a master's degree in English from the University of New Hampshire. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be an artist reception on Sunday, June 12, from 1 to 3 p.m. Call 778-8856 or visit www.seacoastartist.org.

ORG. "Portsmouth Harborside" is a photo illustration by Kensington artist Lauren Chuslo-Shur. Courtesy photo.

ell, Mass. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Visit www.thebrush.org or call 978-459-7819.

• **INSIDE TERRORISM:** The X-Ray Project will be on display through Jan. 13, 2012 at the Congregation Betenu, 5 Northern Blvd., Unit 1, Amherst. Hours are Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. Call 886-1633 or e-mail betenu@nii.net.

• **IT'S ABOUT TIME** Multi-artist exhibit on display through July 22 at Art 3 Gallery, 44 West Brook St., Manchester. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 668-6650 or visit www.art3gallery.com.

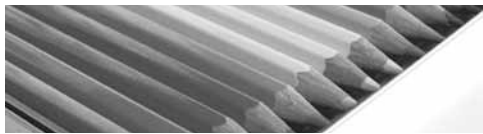
• **JAMIE BOWMAN & MARCUS MICHELS** Work will be on display through June 10 at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Call 225-2515 or visit www.mcgowanfineart.com.

• **JASON REIMERS** Work will be displayed through Sept. 30 at the New Hampshire Antique Co-op, 323 Elm St., Route 101A, Milford. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 673-8499.

• **JON BROOKS:** A Collaboration with Nature will be on display through June 12 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Museum hours are Monday, and Wednesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$10, \$9 for seniors and \$8 for student. Free for kids 18 and under. Call 669-6144 or visit www.currier.org.

• **JUST MY IMAGINATION** Multi-artist exhibition through July 15 at The Gallery at 100 Market, 100 Market St., Portsmouth. Call 436-2818.

• **LET IT BE SPRING** Multi-artist exhibit on display at the Seacoast Artist Association Gallery, 225 Water St.,



LOCAL COLOR

• **An Art Affair in the Country:** As a member of the Manchester Artists Association, Josee Severino has participated in “An Art Affair in the Country,” the association’s yearly summer show, for years. But it wasn’t until this year, when she volunteered to run the event, that she realized how much goes into it. The event will be held on Saturday, June 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Harmony Learning Center, 54 Constitution Drive, Bedford. It hasn’t been held at the learning center for a few years but makes a return there and will get plenty of support from the kids. They will showcase their own works on the same day, according to Severino. “I didn’t realize how much work the volunteers put in,” Severino said. “It is a huge responsibility.” Severino said she has had to coordinate with the town to get permission to host the event and the fire department to make sure safety regulations are followed. She has had to tag out the space for the tents, contact the judges (well-known local artists) and get food lined up. But it will be all worth it. She said so far (days before the deadline) a dozen artists have signed up and will showcase works in different media including oil, water colors, pastels and acrylics. Visit www.manchester-artists.org.

• **Museums offer discounts again:** For the second summer in a row, many New Hampshire museums and historic sites will offer

free admission to active-duty military members and their spouses and children through Labor Day, which is Sept. 5. The museums are participating in the Blue Star Museum program. Representatives of the program came to the Currier Museum of Art last year because New Hampshire had the highest rate of participation in the program in the entire country. Overall 1,300 museums in all 50 states are participating. Visit www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums to check out the complete list of museums.

• **Art meet Culture meet Law:** The New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources will host a special conference called “Arts, Culture & the Law” on Friday, June 24, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the UNH School of Law, 2 White St., Concord. The day is being billed as an educational opportunity for any artist, arts or cultural organization or non-profit interested in learning about cultural issues. There will be 12 panels that will discuss such topics as copyright issues for authors, photographers and visual artists; joint ownership of music and the “garage band”; theater rights and how to get them; not-for-profit governance; the artist-gallery relationship; New Hampshire heritage preservation issues; and taxes in the arts. The conference costs \$50 and includes lunch. Register online at nhnonprofits.org/training-details.cfm?ID=875. —*Adam Coughlin*

Exeter. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 778-8856 or visit www.seacoastartist.org.

• **MANCHESTER ARTS** website presented by the city arts commission, manchester-arts.org.

• **OPEN STUDIO NIGHTS** third Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. at Verdigris Artisans, 88 N. Main St., Suite 205, Concord, www.verdigrisartisans.com.

• **OUR STORIES IN PICTURES AND WORDS:** Immigration Now and Then on display through Aug 5 at UNH-Manchester, 2nd floor, 400 Commercial St., Manchester. Hours are Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 862-3691.

• **PAMELA R. TARBELL SALON EXHIBIT** Works will be on display through July 3 at the Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden, 236 Hopkinton Road, Concord. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 226-2046 or visit www.themillbrookgallery.com.

• **PASTELS** by Nashua artist Pauline Dailey will be on display in the Image Gallery at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, free and open to the public. Call 589-4610.

• **PATTERNS AND TEXTURES** Work of photographer Larry Chase will be on display through Aug. 31 at the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests Conservation Center, 54 Portsmouth St., Concord. Hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in the conference room. Call 224-9945 before visiting to make sure room is not in use. Visit www.forestssociety.org.

• **RENDA BROOKS** Work will be on display through June at Me & Ollie’s, Market Square, 10 Pleasant St., Portsmouth. Call 436-7777.

• **RON PLANTE** Work will be on display at the Nacey S. Loeb School of Communications, 749 East Industrial Park Dr., Manchester. Hours are Monday-Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Call 627-0005.

• **SCOTT & IAN DUFFY** June artists of the month at Exeter Fine Crafts, 61 Water St., Exeter. Hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. or Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Call 778-8282.

• **SENSATIONS OF CHANGE** Work of members of the Hollis Arts Society will be on display June through September at Gallery West Pearl, 100 West Pearl St., Nashua. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., unless a meeting is going on. Call Pat Hurd at 882-1503 or e-mail phurd1503@aol.com.

• **STREET A.K.A. MUSEUM** Work of international street artists will be on display through Sept. 11 at the Portsmouth Museum of Art, 1 Harbour Place, Portsmouth. Admission is free. Outdoor tours cost \$5. Gallery hours are Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday until 8 p.m. Call 436-0332.

• **THE NATURAL WORLD** Work of Pat Hurd and Diane Statkum will be on display through June at Canal Art & Framing, 1 Water St., Nashua. Visit www.canalframing.com or call 886-1459.

• **THE SOLO SHOW** Multi-artist exhibit on display through July 26 at the Soo Rye Gallery, 11 Sagamore Road, Rye. Call 319-1578 or visit www.soorye.com.

• **THROUGH THE WINDOW** Work of Judy McLean and Jane Romps will be on display through June 25 at East Colony Fine Art Gallery at Langer Place, 55 South Commercial St., Manchester. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 621-7400 or visit www.eastcolony.com.

• **TOM JUDD** June artist of the month at the Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library, 7 Forest Road, Wilton. Call 654-2581 or visit www.wiltonlibrarynh.org.

• **TRANSFORMATION** Photographic work of David MacEachran

and Alicia Bergeron on display at Silver Light Gallery, 28 Main St., Suite 2, Goffstown. Visit www.silverhillsstudio.com or call 497-4674.

• **TRANSFORMATION PLAY** Work of Rebekah Wetmore and Meghan Moore will be on display through June 26 at The Loading Dock Gallery at Western Avenue Studios, 122 Western Ave., Lowell, Mass. Visit www.theloadingdock-gallery.com.

• **WATER - BLUE GOLD:** Essential to All Life on Earth will be displayed through Sept. 4 at Gallery 6 at the Children’s Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St., Dover. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. No admission fee is required to view the gallery only. Call 742-2002 or visit www.childrens-museum.org.

• **WILD AND WARY WAYS** work of Rachel B. Hayes will be on display in the Picture Gallery, 39 Saint Gaudens Road, Cornish, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Call 675-2175 or visit www.nps.gov/saga.

THEATER LISTINGS

• **The Acting Loft**
670 North Commercial Street,
Manchester in the Jefferson Mill
Building. 666-5999, actingloft.org

• **Actorsingers**
219 Lake St., Nashua, 889-9691,
actorsingers.org

• **Adams Memorial
Opera House**

29 W. Broadway, Derry,
437-0505, derryarts.org

• **Amato Family Center for the
Performing Arts at Souhegan
Valley Boys & Girls Club**

56 Mont Vernon St., Milford,
672-1002 ext. 2, svbgc.com

• **Andy’s Summer Playhouse**
Wilton, 654-2613,
andyssummerplayhouse.org

• **Anselmian Abbey Players**
Dana Center, 641-7700

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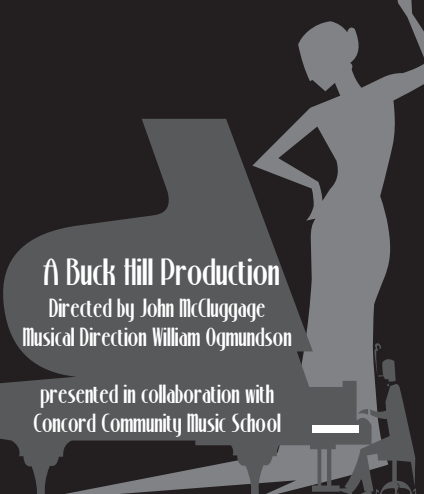
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Gauchos Brazilian
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Curtain Calls

- **Getaway to Peterborough:** In big cities an ideal date can be dinner and a show. But that is because everything is close by and easy to access. To get to Peterborough, which is a quintessential New England town, people have to drive some distance. That is why the Peterborough Players are trying to make it easy for everybody. They have created The Getaway Package, which for a discounted price (\$200-\$299) includes two tickets to see one of the Players' shows, a double-occupancy room at a local inn or hotel, and dinner and breakfast for two. The only catch is that the package is not available on Saturday nights, but the Players have shows every night but Monday so there are plenty of other days in the week to choose from. Visit www.peterboroughplayers.org or call 924-9344.
- **Audition alert:** The Palace Youth Theatre will hold two auditions during the month of June for shows in July and August. The first audition will be *Camp Rock, The Musical* and will be held on Monday, June 13, from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, June 18, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. The show will be performed in July and is based on the popular Disney Channel movie, starring Demi Lovato and the Jonas Brothers. The next audition will be

for *Cinderella Enchanted* and will be held on Sunday, June 26, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Monday, June 27, from 6 to 9 p.m. This show will be performed in August. Prepare 16 bars of music that best shows your voice and wear comfortable clothing for a movement audition. Auditions are for kids 8 to 18 years old only. Call 668-5588.

- **Grant will bring Amy Beach to Henniker:** The Henniker Youth Theatre has received a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council that will enable it to present *Amy Beach Stories* on Friday, July 15, at 3 and 7 p.m. at John Stark Regional High, 618 North Stark Highway, Weare. The event will be a celebration of the Henniker-born Beach, who was a renowned composer and pianist. Former New Hampshire poet laureate Marie Harris, who is writing a book on Beach, will begin the performance with a talk. The youngsters will sing songs Beach wrote as a girl that were inspired by Henniker. E-mail tdunn@comcast.net.

- **Merrimack Rep has new director:** Following a national search, the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass., has hired a new executive director: Steven Leon, who most recently worked as the assistant general manager at the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge. As executive director, Leon will work side by side with artistic director Charles Towers. Call 978-654-4678 or visit www.merrimackrep.org.

—Adam Coughlin

On stage



Cinderella in Derry

The Northern Ballet Theatre Dance Centre will perform the classic tale of Cinderella, her ugly stepsisters and her dream of finding true love. The performance will be held on Friday, June 17, at 7 p.m. at the Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry. While the part of Cinderella is danced with utter grace, the evil stepsisters and stepmother dance humorously, which will have the audience laughing. There is also a full staircase, which opens to the ballroom scene in which Cinderella meets her prince. Tickets cost \$20 (\$15 for children 12 and under). Call 889-8408. Ballet Theatre Dance Centre presents *Cinderella*. Courtesy photo.

- **Bedford Off Broadway**
 Meetinghouse Rd, Bedford, 557-1805, bedfordoffbroadway.com
- **Bedford Town Hall**
 70 Bedford Center Rd., Bedford
- **Bedford Youth Performing Company**
 155 Route 101, Bedford, www.bypc.org, 472-3894.
- **Belle Voci**
bellevoci.org, 848-7986
- **Capitol Center for the Arts**
 44 Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
- **Concord Chorale**
 224-0770, concordchorale.org
- **Concord City Auditorium**
 2 Prince St., Concord, 228-2793, www.theaudi.org
- **Concord Community Players**
 224-4905, communityplayersofconcord.org
- **The Dana Center**
 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu
- **The Hampstead Theatre**
 1355 Suncook Valley Hwy., Ctr. Barnstead, 1-800-619-5302, www.hampsteadstage.org
- **The Majestic Theatre**
 281 Cartier St., Manchester, 669-7469, majestictheatre.net
- **Manchester Community Music School**
 2291 Elm St., 644-4548, mcmusicschool.org
- **Manchester Community Theatre and Second Stage**
 Professional Co. 698 Beech St., Manchester, 627-8787
- **Milford Area Players**
 673-2258, milfordareaplayers.org
- **Muchachos Drum & Bugle Corps**
 PO Box 5197, Manchester, 674-7650, www.muchachos.org
- **Music and Drama Company (MADCo.)**
 Londonderry, madco.org
- **My Act**

- myact.org, 429-3950
- **Nashua Theatre Guild**
 PO Box 137, Nashua, 03061, 320-2530
nashuatheatreguild.org
- **New Thalian Players**
newthalianplayers.org, 666-6466
- **Nashua Community College Performing Arts Club (PAC)**
 505 Amherst St., Nashua, 428-3544
- **The Palace Theatre**
 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
- **Peacock Players**
 14 Court St., Nashua, 886-7000, peacockplayers.org
- **Pittsfield Players**
 6 Depot St., Pittsfield, 435-8852, pittsfieldplayers.com
- **Profile Chorus**
profilechorus.org
- **School of Theater Arts at The Amato Center for Performing Arts**
 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002 ext. 20
- **Seacoast Repertory Theatre**
 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, 433-4472
- **SNHU Drama Club**
 2500 North River Rd., Hooksett
- **Stagecoach Productions**

- 7 Bayberry Way, Mont Vernon, 672-9664 stagecoachproductions.org
- **Stage One Productions**
Dinner Theatre at the Chateau Restaurant
 201 Hanover St., Manchester 669-5511, stageoneprod.com
- **Yellow Taxi Productions**
yellowtaxiproductions.org
- **BROADWAY: THE NEXT GENERATION** will be performed on Fri., June 10, at 7 p.m. at the Janice B. Streeter, 14 Court St., Nashua. Call 889-2330 or visit www.peacockplayers.org.
- **ASSASSINS** will be performed through June 12 at the Acting Loft, 670 North Commercial St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$18 (\$12 for students). Visit www.actingloft.org or call 666-5999.
- **THE TEMPEST** will be performed through June 19 at the Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sun., June 12, at 7 p.m. and Sun., June 19, at 2 p.m. Call 436-8123 or visit www.playersring.org.
- **DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER** will be performed through June 12 at the Garrison Players Arts Center, Route 4 in Rollinsford. Shows are Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$15

(\$10 for students) Call 750-4278 or visit www.garrisonplayers.org.

• **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF** will be performed on Thurs., June 9, at 7:30 p.m. at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 South Main St., Concord. Tickets cost \$45-\$80. Call 225-1111 or visit www.ccanh.com.

• **NEW CASTLE VILLAGE WALK AND GARDEN TOUR** will be held on Sun., June 12, 1-4:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 in advance (\$20 on June 12). Visit www.pontine.org or call 436-6660.

• **ABC: THE SECOND COMING** A Concert to benefit Peacock Players Studio Renovations Project on Fri., June 17, at 7 p.m. at the Adams Memorial Opera House, 29 West Broadway, Derry. Call 548-2398.

• **THE 25th ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE** will be performed June 17 through July 16 at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth. Showtimes are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays, at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$20-\$35. Visit www.seacoastrep.org or call 433-4472.

• **COLE** A Musical Memoir based on the words and music of Cole Porter will be held on Fri., June 17, and Sat., June 18, at 8 p.m. and Sun., June 19, at 2 p.m. at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. Tickets cost \$20. Visit www.ccanh.com or call 225-1111.

• **THE ODD COUPLE** will be performed on Fri., June 17, Sat., June 18, Fri., June 24, and Sat., June 25, at 7:30 p.m. and Sun., June 26, at 2 p.m. at The Majestic Theatre, 281 Cartier St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$15 (\$12 for seniors; \$10 for kids 17 and under). Visit www.majestictheatre.net or call 669-7469.

• **LAST TRAIN TO NIBROC** will be performed June 22-July 3 at the Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. Showtimes are Wednesday-Saturday, at 8 p.m., Tuesdays, at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$40 (\$42 on Saturdays). Call 924-7585 or visit www.peterboroughplayers.org.

Summer Theater

• **INTERLAKES SUMMER THEATRE** Summer performances will be held at Interlakes High School, 1 Lake Lane, Meredith. Shows will be held Tuesday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays, at 2 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. Shows are: *Guys and Dolls*, June 21-July 3; *Man of LaMancha*, July 5-July 17; *Hairspray*, July 19-July 31; *Cabaret*, Aug. 2-Aug. 14; and *Buddy, The Buddy Holly Story*, Aug. 16-Aug. 21. Call 1-888-245-6347 or visit www.interlakes theatre.com.

On stage



Fiddler performs in Concord

The Tony Award-winning musical *Fiddler on the Roof* will be performed on Thursday, June 9, at 7:30 p.m. at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 South Main St., Concord. The musical is based on tales by Sholem Aleichem that he wrote in Yiddish and published in 1894. It includes such legendary songs as "If I Were a Rich Man" and "Sunrise, Sunset." The show is part of a North American national tour with John Preece reprising his role as Tevye. Tickets cost \$80, \$65 and \$45. Visit www.ccanh.com or call 225-1111 *Fiddler on the Roof*. Carol Rosegg photo.

On stage



Debut of new piano

On Sunday, June 12, at 2 p.m. a Vintage 1919 Steinway 9-foot concert grand piano will make its debut at the Kingswood Arts Center on McManus Road, just off South Main Street in Wolfeboro. Several pianists from Wolfeboro, the Lakes Region and the University of New Hampshire will play the piano. Following the concert, which is free, there will be an open house from 2 to 5 p.m. The Great Waters Music Festival will hold five summer concerts in the 850-seat hall. Call 569-2151 or visit www.wfriendsofmusic.org. New piano. Courtesy photo.

www.interlakes theatre.com.

• **WIZARD OF OZ** will be performed Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, June 24 through Aug. 21 at the Prescott Park Arts Festival. Call 436-2848 or visit www.prescottpark.org.

• **LITTLE SMILES CHILDREN'S SUMMER SERIES** will be held at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. Shows are Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Shows are: *The Frog Prince*, June 28; *The Secret Garden*, July 5; *The Ugly Duckling*, July 12; *The Princess and the Pea*, July 19; *Arabian Nights*, July 26; *Beauty and the Beast*, Aug. 2; *The Pied Piper*, Aug. 9; and *Cinderella*, Aug. 16. Call 225-1111 or visit www.ccanh.com.

• **PETERBOROUGH PLAYERS** will perform a variety of plays at 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough, 924-7585, www.peterboroughplayers.org. Shows are: *Last Train to Nibroc*, June 22-July 3; *Oh, Coward!*, July 6-July 17; *Ancestral Voices: A Family Story*, July 20-July 31; *Arms and the Man*, Aug. 3-Aug. 14; *Dr. Knock*, Aug. 17-Aug. 28; *Measure for Measure*, Aug. 31-Sept. 11; and *The Lady with All the Answers*, Sept. 14-Sept.

25. Second Company will present Stuart Little, Fridays and Saturdays, July 1-July 23, and Puss in Boots, Aug. 20, Aug. 22, Aug. 23, Aug. 26, and Aug. 27.

• **THE WINNIPESAUKEE PLAYHOUSE** will perform shows at Alpenrose Plaza, 36 Endicott St., East Laconia, 366-7377, www.winnipplayhouse.com. First show is *Butterflies Are Free*, June 22-July 2. Shows are Tuesdays through Saturdays, at 7:30 p.m. and Mondays at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Other shows are: *The Tempest*, July 6-July 16; *Shipw*

Auditions/workshops

• **ART OF MURDER** Auditions will be held on Sat., June 11, 1-4 p.m. and Mon., June 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Reading from the script. One minute comedic monologues are welcome but not required. Show dates are Sept. 15-Sept. 18. E-mail Deborah Shaw at theatredeb@myfairpoint.net or visit www.nashuatheatreguild.org.

• **CAMP ROCK** Auditions for 8-18 year olds will be on Mon., June 13, 6-9 p.m. and Sat., June 18, 9 a.m.-noon at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Call 668-5588.

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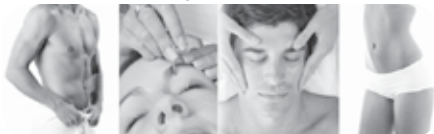


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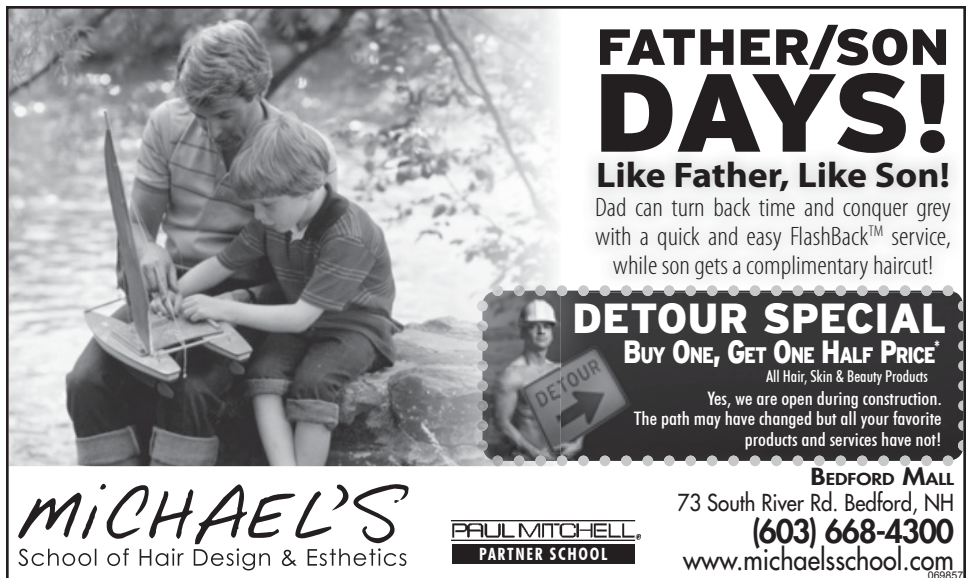


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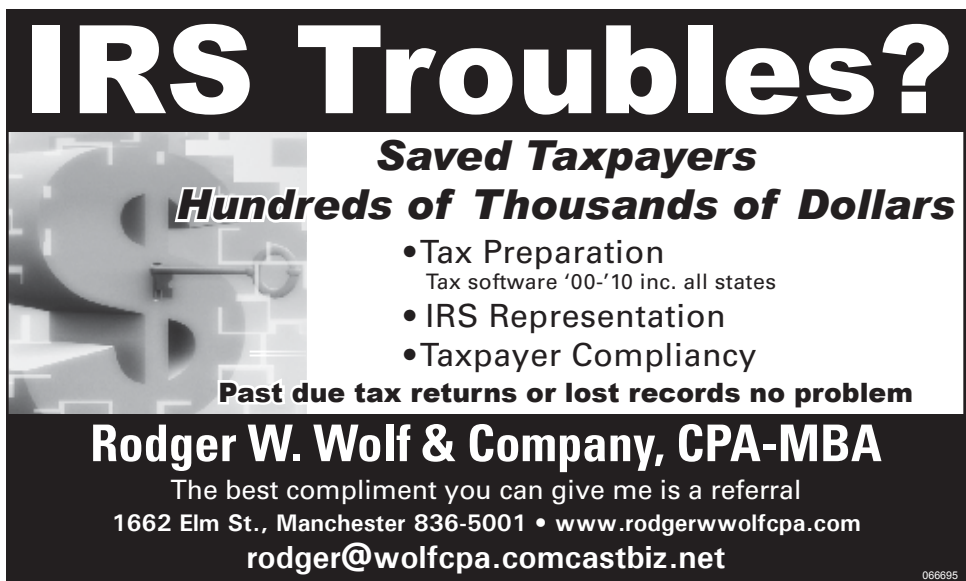
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CLASSICAL

Really good chamber music

Gala Benefit concert a draw for newbies and fans

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

Now that its season is over, the Nashua Chamber Orchestra will turn to three professional musicians and chamber music to help generate funds for next year.

The orchestra will host its annual Gala Benefit Concert on Saturday, June 11, in Milford. The event is the group's yearly fundraiser. Performing will be concert pianist George Lopez, cellist Harel Gietheim and the Nashua Chamber Orchestra's own concertmaster, violinist Beth Welty. While the Nashua Chamber Orchestra is a community group, these three performers are professionals and highly trained, according to Welty. Also since there are only three performers there will be an intimacy to the program not typically seen. Yet, listeners will be surprised.

"It will be surprising how much diverse music the three of us can create together," Welty said. "We will have as much variety as an orchestra."

The musicians will perform Haydn's G Major Piano Trio, which Welty described as an "energetic and fun piece." They will also play three preludes of George Gershwin, transcribed for piano and violin. This piece in particular struck a nostalgic chord for Welty. She said it was the last piece she played on the piano when she was a kid. Now she has had to relearn the music for the violin.

After intermission, Lopez, who is the visiting artist-in-residence at Bowdoin College, will perform a Rachmaninoff solo before the trio finishes with Brahms' Piano Trio in B Major, Opus 8.

"Personally, I love Brahms," Welty said. "He is probably my favorite composer."

What is fascinating about this piece, according to Welty, is that technically it is early Brahms. He composed the original version in 1854, but he produced a revised version (this is more commonly played and will be performed by the trio) in 1891. The revised version shows just how much Brahms improved over his career. This version is tight in its construction and well-crafted, according to Welty, yet still has some of the raw emotions of a young composer.

"If you've never listened to chamber music before this is a good concert to



Beth Welty. Courtesy photo.

come to," Welty said. "It is very accessible."

"I encourage people to come out," Welty continued. "The music you will hear is as good as what you would get in Boston. It is a fun evening."

It is a tradition dating back at least eight years, according to John David, orchestra board member, and began under previous conductor Mark Latham. David said

the first gala was a failure, as it was held on a Sunday afternoon in the spring time and so attendance was low. David said they put the idea on hold for a few years but decided to give it another try with a gala concert on a Saturday evening at the Milford Town Hall. David said they tossed around the idea of having a wine and cheese night, but they would have needed a liquor license for only one night and it seemed too much of a hassle. Instead they had an ice cream sundae bar, which may have helped make the night successful.

The Nashua Chamber Orchestra also benefited from the fact that Lopez loves the piano in the Milford Town Hall and enjoys playing on it. As a result, he has come back several times over the years, along with a variety of talented musicians. Latham, a violinist, and current conductor David Feltner, who also plays the viola, have also played in the gala previously.

The gala is the lone fundraiser for the orchestra and so they give tickets to members and ask them to sell them before the concert. But why does the Nashua Chamber Orchestra use chamber music for its fundraiser instead of having members in the orchestra perform? David said they want to offer something unique to the people of southern New Hampshire.

"The opportunity to hear really good chamber music is rare," David said. "We're proud that through the talent within our orchestra and its friends we can put on such a show."

Gala Benefit Concert

When: Saturday, June 11, at 8 p.m.

Where: Milford Town Hall on the Milford Oval

Tickets: Cost \$25 at door

Info: Call 801-7108 or visit www.nco-music.org.

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

• **SEEKING MUSICIANS** The Amherst Town Band is seeking new musicians on all instruments. They rehearse Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. in the choral room at Souhegan High School, 412 Boston Post Road, Amherst. Most band members are amateur musicians. Visit www.amhersttownband.org.

• **MANCHESTER COMMUNITY SUMMER BAND** Open to all woodwind, brass, and percussion players, high school students through adult learners. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. at the Manchester Community Music School, 2291 Elm St., Manchester. Call 644-4548.

• **SUMMER CLASSES** At The Mid-

dle Music Academy of Middle New Hampshire Arts & Entertainment Center, 316 Central St., Franklin. Call 934-1901 or visit www.themiddlenh.org.

• **GALA BENEFIT CONCERT** will be held on Sat., June 11, at 8 p.m. at the Milford Town Hall on the Milford Oval. Tickets cost \$20 in advance (\$25 at the door). Visit www.nco-music.org or call 801-7108.

• **THE BRINKLER TRIO** will perform on Sat., June 11, at 8 p.m. at the Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester. Tickets cost \$14. Call 335-1992 or visit www.rochesteroperahouse.com.

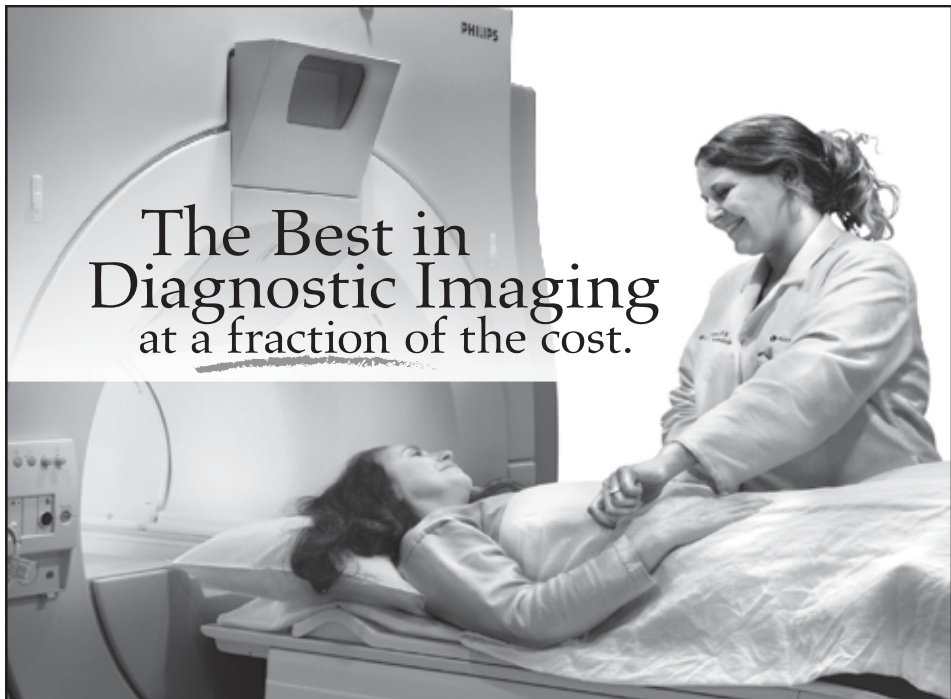
• **VINTAGE 1919 STEINWAY MAKES DEBUT** on Sun., June 12, at 2 p.m. at the Kingswood Arts Cen-

ter, 396 South Main St., Wolfeboro. The concert is free.

• **AMHERST TOWN BAND** will perform on Tues., June 21, at 7 p.m. at the Amherst Town Green in Amherst. Visit www.amhersttownband.org.

• **NEVERS' 2nd REGIMENT BAND** will perform on Tues., June 21, at 7 p.m. at Eagle Square in Concord. The concert is free. Visit www.neversband.org.

• **SPIRIT FIDDLE CONCERT** to raise money for the Kimberly Cates Scholarship Fund will be held on Fri., June 24, at 7 p.m. at Souhegan High School, 412 Boston Post Road, Amherst. Tickets cost \$15. Visit www.kimcatesfund.org or www.spiritfiddle.com.



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Snakes eat mice for lunch

Observing the cycle of nature at the Audubon Center

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

Almost every Sunday, people can head to the Massabesic Audubon Center and receive valuable lessons on fear, respect and the benefits of following simple rules delivered by Mother Nature herself. It is dinner and a show, except the meal is the show.

For the past three or four years, the duo of Barbara Benton and David Saxe have volunteered at the Massabesic Audubon Center in their town of Auburn. As part of their volunteer duties, the two feed the center's three snakes — a corn snake and two ball pythons — and clean out the raven cage and feed the large, black bird. The two thought perhaps the public would like to see nature at work, so the Audubon Center began opening up these feedings to the public. They are held Sundays throughout the year beginning at 11:30 a.m. Sometimes there is a crowd. Other times not so much. Regardless, the creatures go on feeding.

But what is appealing about watching a snake devour a live mouse? Saxe said it teaches people, especially young kids, not to fear snakes but to respect the natural order of life.

"Initially people think snakes are clammy," Saxe said. "They're not clammy. They have scales and are smooth. They won't bite you. They are docile and slow moving until they need to move. The show teaches kids not to be afraid of snakes but to be respectful and to follow some simple rules. For example, don't feed the snakes

the mice with your fingers. Snakes don't see so well and if your finger feels warm and smells like a mouse, they may think it is."

The ball pythons, like some of the animals at the Audubon Center, are not native to New Hampshire. Their homeland is West Africa, according to Saxe. These exotic animals are often purchased for a child but later the parents realize the snake will live for 30 years and the child has grown and gone to college. As a result, the snakes end up in need of care.

Saxe said the ball python, which as an adult grows to about three or four feet, can go a long time between meals. In fact, he said the longest on record is two years. One of the ball pythons at the Audubon Center has gone six months between snacks. The snakes don't eat very much during the winter but feast more in the summer. Saxe said the male snake eats only live mice, while the female only eats dead ones. He said these snakes have grown up that way and once a preference has been established it is not good to try to change it.

The raven, on the other hand, is in fact native to New Hampshire. Ravens are more common up north in a mountainous climate, but they are not uncommon in the southern part of the state. Saxe said if anyone sees what they think is a monster crow, it is most likely a raven. Saxe said researchers would probably cringe at his assessment but he said crows and ravens are quite similar.

The raven is at the Audubon Center because of an injury to its right wing, which has robbed it of the strength to fly. The raven gains strength by eating every day and is rumored to have made friends with wild ravens that have been known to make surprise appearances at a show.

"The reason we do these shows is because we believe the public should come and have contact with nature," Saxe said. "Personally, I had never seen a ball python before."



Barbara Benton (left) shows a youngster a ball python at a recent snake feeding. Adam Coughlin photo.

Both Saxe and Breton are self-described "software computer geeks" who spent years in the profession but could never shake their love of nature. Saxe's father was a zoologist and so every time he stepped out of his door he was on a wildlife field trip. Both grew up in the wilds of West Virginia and spent plenty of time communing with nature. They began volunteering so that the limited staff at the Audubon Center wouldn't need to use their free time on the matters. The experience has not only left an impression on the pair but also affected many kids.

"It is amazing to watch a 5-year-old kid or even an 8-year-old or 10-year-old come in and watch the process and understand what goes on in the natural world," Saxe said. "Many of them come and are afraid of snakes. But by the end, they don't want to leave without petting the snake."

Saxe said the male ball python, which has been in captivity all its life, will ignore the mouse, which often doesn't realize it is in danger. Then he will wrap up the mouse and suffocate it. Despite his poor vision, he'll know which end is which and devour the mouse head first. Saxe said the female ball python can dislodge her jaw and eat a whole mouse or rat straight down.

On this day, perhaps the mouse's final words are: Quoth the raven, 'Nevermore.'

NATURE & GARDENING

- **Amoskeag Fishways**
6 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-FISH, amoskeagfishways.org
- **Beaver Brook Association**
117 Ridge Road, Hollis, 465-7787, beaverbrook.org.
- **Charmingfare Farm**
Route 27, Candia, 483-5623, visitthefarm.com
- **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center**
2 Institute Drive, Concord, 271-STAR, starhop.com
- **Educational Farm at Joppa Hill**
174 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford, 472-4724, theeducationalfarm.org
- **Friends of Stark Park**
North River Road, Manchester, 645-6700, friendsofstarkpark.org
- **Londonberry Trailways**
PO Box 389, Londonderry, londonderrytrails.org
- **Manchester Historic Association**
129 Amherst St., 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org
- **Massabesic Audubon Center**
26 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045, nhudubon.org

- **McLane Center**
84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909, nhudubon.org
- **Peabody Mill**
Environmental Center 66 Brook Rd, Amherst, 673-1141, pmec.org
- **Seacoast Science Center**
570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, 436-8043, seacoastsciencecenter.org
- **Society for the Protection of NH Forests**
224-9945, spnhf.org

Animals/insects/plants

- **BACKYARD BIRDING BASICS** at Massabesic Audubon Center, 26 Audubon Way in Auburn, www.nhaidubon.org, 668-2045, every Sunday at 2 p.m. Learn how to identify local backyard birds. Binoculars and field guides will be on hand. \$5.

Gardening/farming

- **PURELY FOR PLEASURE** White Rock Senior Living Community, 6 Bow Center, Bow, Thurs., June 9, 10 a.m. Presented by the NH Flower Show judges. A floral design program with Penny Decker, who will create several floral displays and share her expertise. Donation is \$10 per person. Call Sue Johnson at 224-9808 or e-mail Schiltgen6@comcast.net.
- **GARDENING FOR PEACE** at Herbal Living (242 General Miller Hwy., Temple,

878-0459, herbanlivingbandb.com) on Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to noon.

- **GOFFSTOWN COMMUNITY GARDEN CLUB** holds meetings on the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at Mountain View Middle School (41 Lauren Lane, Goffstown). Visit gardencentral.org/nhfgc/gcgc.
- **GRANITE STATE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY** (GSAVS) meets first Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. (except January and July) at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 Broadway in Derry, and holds regular workshops, plant and leaf sales and swaps. New members and visitors welcome; call 887-3154.
- **HAMPSTEAD GARDEN CLUB** holds meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Hampstead Congregational Church (61 Main St., Hampstead). Visit hampsteadgarden.org.
- **HOKSETT GARDEN CLUB** is holding programs open to the public at the Hooksett Public Library (1701B Hooksett Road, Hooksett) on the last Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Visit nhclubs.esiteasp.com/hooksettgardclub.
- **MERRIMACK GARDEN CLUB** meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at St. James United Methodist Church, 646 DW Highway in Merrimack See www.merrimackgardenclub.org or contact Chris

B. at 880-3739.

- **NASHUA GARDEN CLUB** (nashua-gardenclub.org) holds meetings the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church (121 Manchester St., Nashua). The public can attend meetings for a \$5 fee. Membership is \$20.
- **NH ORCHID SOCIETY** meets 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on second Saturday of each month at the Bedford Town Hall, at the intersection of Meeting House Road and Bedford Center Road. Refreshments are available and visitors are welcome.
- **NH ROSE SOCIETY** (newhampshirerosesociety.org) meets at locations in southern New Hampshire including the Bedford Library.
- **NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION OF NH** (224-5022, nofanh.org) offers workshops and classes on gardening and farming. Call 224-5022 or e-mail info@nofanh.org.
- **OPECHEE GARDEN CLUB** is online at www.opeecheegardenclub.com.
- **READY, SET, SOW!** Saturday morning garden talk series at the Canterbury Shaker Village, 288 Shaker Road, Canterbury, 783-9511, www.shakers.org. Program runs monthly on Saturdays. Light refreshments will be served. Cost is free. Call or visit the Website for dates.
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Special events

• On June 10, the Super Stellar Friday theme at McAu-liffe-Shepard Discovery Center, 2 Institute Drive, Con-cord, is “**Teen Night: Rockets & Robots!**” The event starts at 7 p.m. and costs \$8 per teen (ages 13-19). Meet area stu-dents from ARLISS Team New Hampshire: the Rocket Launch for International Student Satel-lites. These students designed and built a real eight-foot-tall rocket. See it and the robotic satellite they will be launching in just a few weeks. They will also bring video footage of their last big launch. Rocket launch with pizza will follow. Visit www.starhop.com or call 271-7827.

• Sant Bani School, 19 Ashram Road, Sanbornton, holds its **5th Annual Auction and Summer Festival** on Sat-urday, June 11, from 5 to 9 p.m. on the athletic field under the big tent. Sant Bani School and Alumni will be celebrating 38 years of creatively educating New Hampshire students. The festival will have face painting, kids’ games, a burrito buffet, and entertainment featuring The Buskers and guests from the Sant Bani community. Bid on passes to theme parks and air-

line tickets, vacation getaways, gift certificates, handcrafted jewelry and more. Visit www.santbanischool.org or call 934-4240.

Animals big and small

• Saturday, June 11, is Con-cord-Merrimack County **SPCA Blue Seal Adoption Day and Petco Day**. The SPCA will have animals available for adoption at Blue Seal at 520 Hall St. in Bow from 10 a.m. to noon. The SPCA will also have adoptable animals and volunteers at Concord Petco located at 35 Fort Eddy Road from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Vis-it www.concordspca.org or call 753-6751.

• The Amoskeag Fishways in Manchester presents “**Dirt, Worms, and Super Soil,**” a family program about com-posting, on Friday, June 10, from 7 to 8 p.m. Participants will meet those worker worms and learn how to create a small compost bin. Cost is \$5 per family; advance registration with payment is required. Call 626-3474 or go to www.amoskeagfishways.org.

• Join Laura Deming, New Hampshire Audubon senior biologist, on a **free walk-ing tour of Ponemah Bog** in Amherst on Saturday, June

11, beginning at 10 a.m. Par-ticipants will meet the bog’s distinctive plants and wildlife, including birds and dragon-flies, and learn about the bog’s natural history. To learn more about Ponemah Bog, go to http://02a22b0.netsolhost.com/sanctuary_amhe.php.

Books and art

• Get your autograph pen ready. On Saturday, June 11, at 11 a.m. Holley Gamache will be at Toadstool Bookshop at 586 Nashua St. in Milford, 673-1734, www.toadbooks.com, with her children’s book ***The Adventures of Murray the Mouse***.

• Head to the Currier Muse-um of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, www.currier.org, this Saturday, June 11, for their montly Fam-ily Saturday program “**Design Your Dream House**” from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event includes a guided museum tour and hands-on art activi-ties. Admission is free from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Sun-day, June 12, is the last day to see “**Jon Brooks: A Collab-oration with Nature**” at the museum. Brooks, a sculptor who constructs furniture from the trunks and branches of trees, is based in New Boston.

(877-398-4769, extension.unh.edu) offers classes on landscaping, gar-dening and amateur forestry. See website for schedule. The Coopera-tive Extension’s Family, Home and Garden Center also has an informa-tion line to offer answers to garden questions Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Wednes-days from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

SPORTS & RECREATION

• **Bow Recreation Department**
2 Knox Road, Bow, 228-2222,
bowparksandrecreation.com

• **Candia Woods Golf Links**
313 South Rd., Candia, 483-2307,
candiawoods.com
• **Concord Recreation Dept.**
onconcord.com/recreation
• **Granite State Senior Games**
11 Stagecoach Way, Manchester,
622-9041, nhseniorgames.org
• **Granite State Wheelmen**
215 S. Broadway, Salem, 898-
5479, granitestatewheelmen.org
• **McIntyre Ski Area**
Kennard Road in Manchester,
622-6159, mcintyreskiarea.com
• **Mine Falls Park**
Whipple Street in Nashua,

Parks & Recreation, 589-3370
• **White Park Pond**
Washington and White streets in
Concord, onconcord.com/recreation
• **YMCA**
30 Mechanic St., Manchester,
623-3558, gmfyymca.org
6 Henry Clay Dr., Merrimack,
881-7778, nmymca.org
17 Prospect St., Nashua,
882-2011, nmymca.org
15 North State St., Concord,
228-9622, concordymca.org
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Treasure hunt

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Donna,

I want to tell you first that lots of us at the senior center read The Hippo and your column every week. I also want to thank you for looking at this comic book for me and letting me know the value.

Julia in Manchester

Julia,

It was a pleasure meeting you. I have done some research on your comic book, Mandrake the Magician #18, and found out that these were produced a few different times starting in the 1930s all the way up to 1970s — re-issues and also productions from different companies.

The values for the one you have are all over the place. Condition is everything when it comes to comics and rarity is important also. I have seen several #18s in the price range



of \$40 to \$80 from the older issues to the 1970s re-issues. Either way I think you have a winner here, depending on the condition. I have seen comic books that were valued at over \$1,000 bring less than \$100 due to their condition. Torn pages, discoloration and frayed pages can all contribute to this.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (www.fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser, an instructor and a licensed auctioneer. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or e-mail her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

Course, Concord, Sat., June 18, 8 a.m. An 18-hole best ball scramble. To benefit Farmsteads of New England (FNE), a nonprofit human services agency in Hillsborough and Epping that provides day, residential and respite support services in a working farm environment for adults who have autism and other developmental disabilities. Includes lunch, a raffle and an auction. The tournament fee is \$100 per person, which includes a golf cart. Call 783-9848 or e-mail kpkb80@comcast.net.

• **25TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC** Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington Street, Dover, Tues., June 28, 1 p.m. The registration fee of \$150 includes 18 holes of golf and carts, a pre-tournament lunch and post-play cocktail hour in the clubhouse. The tournament will also feature team and individual prizes, a closest-to-the-pin prize, 50-50 raffle and a silent auction. Visit www.childrens-museum.org or contact Sarah Strangas at sarah@childrens-museum.org.

Horseback riding

• **TOM CURTIN QUALITY HORSEMANSHIP CLINIC** Gelin Farm, 471 4th Range Road, Pembroke, June 7-9: Ranch horse versatility, June 10-12: Colt starting and horsemanship and June 13: Cow work. Tom Curtin has been teaching clinics since 2001. Visit www.tom-curtin.com

Runs/running/walks

• **FLAT 'N FAST 5K** the Windham Rail Trail Alliance is holding a 5K beginning at Roulston Road and finishing at the Windham Depot, Depot Road, Windham, Sun., June 12, 8:30 a.m. A fun walk starts after the last runner. The race is organized in conjunction with the Windham Recreation Department with chip timing provided by Granite State Timing. Online registration is available on www.coolrunning.com and forms are available at various locations in Windham and on the WRTA web site www.windhamrailtrail.org. The first 225 runners will receive a tech race shirt. First male/female finishers will receive a \$50 prize. Food and refreshments will be served after the race.

• **FATHERS DAY 5K** Margarita's

of Dover, Indian Brook Drive Dover, Sun., June 19, 8:30 a.m. A family friendly 5k featuring Margarita's style food and prizes. Wear a necktie in honor of Father's Day. Visit <http://www.avisgoodwinchc.org>.

Spectator

• **LOWELL SPINNERS**, the Red Sox single-A minor-league affiliate, play at LeLacheur Park, 450 Aiken St., Lowell, Mass. Find tickets and a complete schedule at www.lowell-spinners.com. Next home games are vs. the Conn. Tigers Fri., June 17, at 7:05 p.m., Sat., June 18, at 5:05 p.m. and Sun., June 19, at 5:50 p.m.

• **MANCHESTER FREEDOM**, New Hampshire's full-contact all-female professional football team in the Independent Women's Football League, plays a regular-season home game on Sat., June 11, against the Philadelphia Firebirds. Games are played at 4 p.m. at West Memorial Field, 9 Notre Dame Ave. in Manchester. Tickets cost \$5. See www.manchesterfreedom.com.

• **MANCHESTER ROLLER GIRLS** go against the Seacoast-based Poison Pixies in their next home bout, Sat., June 18, at West Side Arena, 1 Electric Ave. in Manchester. Doors open at 5 p.m.; bout starts at 6 p.m. Tickets cost between \$6 and \$18. See www.mvrgnh.com.

• **NASHUA SILVER KNIGHTS**, a summer baseball team competing in the Futures Collegiate Baseball League, plays at Holman Stadium, 67 Amherst St. in Nashua, www.nashuasilverknights.com. Opening day is Sat., June 11. The Silver Knights play the Titans at 5:05 p.m. Other home games include vs. the Sharks on Sun., June 12, at 5:05 p.m. and vs. the Mavericks on Wed., June 15, at 7:05 p.m.

• **NH FISHER CATS**, a Double-A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays, play at Northeast Delta Dental Stadium, 1 Line Drive in Manchester, 61-2005, nhfishercats.com. Upcoming home games include vs. the Bowie Baysox on Thurs., June 9, at 7:05; vs. the Richmond Flying Squirrels on Fri., June 10, and Sat., June 11, at 7:05 p.m. and Sun., June 12, at 1:35 p.m.

• **NH ROLLER DERBY** at the JFK Coliseum, 303 Beech St. in Manchester, plays their next home bout

on Sat., June 18, when the Garden State Roller Girls take on the Skate Free or Die! All-Stars and the CT Roller Girls go up against the Queen City Cherry Bombs. Doors open at 4 p.m.; bouts start at 5 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. See www.nhrollerderby.com.

Team sports

• **AMOSKEAG ROWING CLUB** promotes rowing on the Merrimack River. See www.amoskeagrowing.org.

• **DODGEBALL** league at Greater Manchester Family YMCA for ages 18+. See www.gmfymca.org or call Chris Webster at 232-8632.

• **DOGEBALL & SOCCER** Concord-area adults can join a community dodge ball league or a community soccer league, hosted by the Concord recreation department. Both leagues are coed and for ages 20+. Dodge ball meets Mondays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Heights Community Center; soccer meets Sunday afternoons. Call 225-8690 or visit www.onconcord.com/recreation.

• **NH SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB** (www.nhssc.com, 413-6632) offers kickball, dodgeball, volleyball, softball, football, basketball, hockey and darts at locations across the southern section of the state to men and women 21+. After games, members usually meet at a nearby pub. Call to join.

• **PICKUP BASKETBALL GAMES** for 18+ at the Green Street Community Center Gym in Concord on Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon-1:15 p.m. and 8-10 p.m. Cost is \$3 per visit. See www.onconcord.com/recreation.

• **VOLLEYBALL** Bow Parks and Recreation (2 Knox Road, Bow, 228-2222) offers adults a weekly chance to prove themselves on the volleyball court on Wednesdays, 8 to 11 p.m. throughout the year at Bow Elementary School. The program is free but you must fill out a waiver to participate. Call Pete at 228-5227.

• **VOLLEYBALL** for ages 20+, offered by Concord Recreation Department. Co-ed league will have games on Sundays, 1-3 p.m. at the Heights Community Center, Concord. Contact the Concord Recreation Department at 225-8690 or visit www.onconcord.com/recreation.

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GARDENING GUY

Flowering trees and shrubs

Plant them now, water all summer



Shadbush in bloom. Henry Homeyer photo.

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

If you have traveled a mile from your house this past month, you have passed by plenty of blooming trees and shrubs. Some, like those bold, deep pink or magenta PJM rhododendrons, are brassy and loud in their announcement of spring. Others, like the maples and birches, are more subtle. All give me joy. All are worth observing.

It seems to me that maples are given scant attention when it comes to their flowers, but this year the maples in my part of the world are producing prodigious numbers of blossoms. Most trees have an occasional "mast" year when they produce a bumper crop of fruit, nuts or seeds. This appears to be a mast year for maples. Their flowers appear first each year, before the leaves, and are dainty greenish yellow. The flowers hang or dangle on thin green 1- to 3-inch-long strings in a merry, decorative fashion. They don't resemble flowers we pick or admire, for the most part. Still, given the numbers of them this year, they make a dramatic statement, creating a yellow/lime green cast to the entire tree, glorious from a distance.

The birches also have interesting blossoms, which are called catkins. Catkins are hanging appendages 2 to 4 inches long, a bit like tiny fuzzy sausages hanging in groups of two or three that produce (or receive) pollen. There are separate male and female catkins. Catkins also appear on some willows and poplars. Like any wind-pollinated flower, catkins produce lots of pollen and may cause allergic reactions in some people. Male poplar trees produce pollen that is very irritating to many people and is a main cause of hay fever at this time of year — though the females are not allergy-producers.

If you suffer from hay fever, a good resource is Tom Ogren's book *Allergy-Free Gardening: The Revolutionary Guide to Healthy Landscaping*. Ogren lists not only trees and shrubs but many common flowers and rates them on a scale of 1 to 10 in term of how potent the pollen is.

The shadbush, shadblow or serviceberry (*Amelanchier* spp) have been blooming along the roadside in recent weeks. These are white-flowered understory trees or shrubs that bloom toward the end of the forsythia display but before lilacs. The blossoms resemble apple blossoms, but the trees (or shrubs) have smooth gray bark and a lankier overall appearance than apples. They vary in size but rarely get taller than 30 or 40 feet in the wild. As a domesticated shrub they can be kept in the 6-



Sugar Maple in bloom. Henry Homeyer photo.

to 10-foot size.

If you want a good bush for feeding birds in summer, shadbush is a good choice. They produce blue berries that are much beloved by birds and are generally stripped off the bushes before I get a chance to taste them. But they are tasty for us, too. And I love the smooth gray bark and the multi-stemmed growth of the bushes. The most floriferous of the varieties, for me, is *Amelanchier arborea* 'Cole's Select.' I found it at E.C. Brown's Nursery in Thetford, Vt., (www.ecbrownnursery.com) and I have gotten other varieties there, too.

This is a good time to prune your forsythia. As early spring bloomers, they set their blossoms for next spring this summer, so prune by early summer to get the best display next spring. That is a good plan for any spring-blooming tree or shrub. If you have forsythia that only bloom on the lower branches, you have an old-fashioned variety, one that is easily susceptible to winter burn. The blooming branches are those that were protected by snow. The best solution? Cut them down, dig them up and get a better variety. 'New Hampshire Gold,' 'Vermont Sun' and 'Northern Sun' are good, hardy varieties that should do well for you. Or ask at your family-run garden center for a good one for our climate.

Apples and crabapples set their buds for next year by early June. You should be done with pruning them by now, though a little pruning now is all right. Fruit buds are brittle at this time of year, and you can easily snap them off when pulling prunings from the tree, so be careful when removing branches. Pruning them when dormant is best, which is why March is the usual month. It's also fine to do some pruning in the heat of August.

Lilacs are some of the toughest and most wonderful of the blooming shrubs. Old farmers scattered wood ashes around the base of their lilacs in March to keep the soil sweet (not too acidic). You can do that now — or anytime, really — to help with next year's bloom. A quart yogurt container of limestone or wood ashes is fine for a small lilac or a couple of cans for bigger ones. It really does make a difference. And lilacs in full sun bloom much better than those planted in shade. Buy lilacs in bloom so you can see their color and sniff their fragrance before making a purchase.

This is a great time to plant trees in shrubs, but only if you are willing to water them all summer. If you'll likely forget, plant in the fall.

Henry Homeyer's website is www.Gardening-Guy.com. Reach him by e-mail at henry.homeyer@comcast.net.

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Overseas reader needs mechanic for father's final ride



Dear Tom and Ray:

My terminally ill father has just given me his 1961 Lincoln Continental. The car is in a storage unit in Michigan, and although it was mostly restored about eight or nine years ago, it now needs some repairs (I have a list of what it needs) to make it road-worthy. I'd like to fix it up and drive it to the East Coast, and give my father his final ride in it. My problem is that I'm living overseas, and I need to find a mechanic I can wire money to so that when it's ready, I can fly to Michigan, pick it up and drive right out to the East Coast. Do you have any idea about how to find a mechanic who can help me, who would be reputable and who wouldn't take advantage of an absentee customer? Many thanks. — Annie

RAY: We were right there with you until you mentioned the word "reputable," Annie.

TOM: Actually, your ideal candidate would be both reputable and have some experience with ancient Continentals.

RAY: So start by calling dentists' offices near where the car is stored. Ask if they treat any mechanics with few to no teeth. That's the age group you're interested in, Annie.

TOM: Actually, we have a couple of genuine ideas for you. One is to start with the Lincoln and Continental Owners Club. You can find it on the Web at www.lcoc.org. It has a network of members who all love and restore old Lincolns. If you post a request on its website, and hook up with the regional club in Michigan, it may be able to help you find someone near the car who specializes in old Lincolns.

RAY: The second option would be to search the Mechanics Files (www.cartalk.com/mechanics). That's a database of mechanics who have been personally recommended by readers of our column or listeners to our radio show. You search it by entering your ZIP code.

TOM: You won't necessarily find a Continental specialist that way, but

you should be able to find some highly recommended mechanics in the area. Then you can call a few of them and ask if they know anybody who'd be good for your dad's car.

RAY: You might get lucky. One of the guys you reach might want to do the work. But more likely, he'll know another guy in the area who loves working on older cars.

TOM: We wish you a lot of luck, Annie. It's a wonderful, sweet thing you're doing for your dad. My kids wouldn't be nearly as nice if I stuck them with one of my old heaps.

Dear Tom and Ray:

When shopping for a new car, we favored the Mazda5, but my wife had one major concern: the low-profile tires. The dealer assured us they were absolutely safe and had standard tires beat. A month after purchasing this car, we caught a hidden pothole, which took out both right-side tires (sidewall bulges), rims, a front strut and a rear shock absorber. In 60 years of driving, having met many a pothole and losing only one tire to them, we've never experienced this degree of damage (\$1,800) from a pothole. Are these low-profile tires as safe as standard tires? Or are we the guinea pigs test-

ing these tires? — Rick

RAY: Are you sure it was just a pothole, Rick? From the amount of damage you did, it sounds like it may have been a canyon at a national park.

TOM: Or, it sounds like you were going very fast when you hit this pothole.

RAY: Or both. When you hit a large pothole at high speed, no matter what kind of tires you have, you're going to do some damage.

TOM: That said, low-profile tires are more susceptible to road hazards. "Low-profile" means the sidewalls are short. This makes the sidewalls firmer, and less likely to bend and deform on turns, which results in better handling.

RAY: But the downside is that there's less space between the road and your wheels. And if you hit a pothole, jump a curb or drive over your neighbor's granite lawn flamingo, you easily could find yourself in need of a new, \$800 alloy wheel or two.

TOM: Plus, there are two other things we don't like about low-profile tires. First, they're noisier. And second, the ride is more punishing, because there's less sidewall rubber to absorb the bumps.

RAY: This is something to keep in mind when you're buying a new car.

On some cars (like the Mazda5), you don't have a choice. Mazda obviously felt that the van needed the handling advantage of low-profile tires. But sometimes you do have a choice.

TOM: Dealers often will push optional "bigger wheels." But remember, bigger wheels almost always come with lower-profile tires. Why? Because if the wheels are bigger, the tires have to be smaller so the whole shebang can still fit in the wheel well.

RAY: So our advice, in general, is: Unless you own stock in alloy-wheel companies, stick with standard-size wheels and standard-profile tires when you have the option. Your wife was onto something, Rick.

Do you really need that truck if you only make one trip to the lumberyard per year? Find out what kind of car NOT to get in Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

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Where's your junk?

Find out what's hiding on your hard drive

By John Andrews
jandrews@hippopress.com



I'm a Windows guy, but one of its many persistent weaknesses is its inability to give you a real sense of how much space you're using. Sure, you know your total hard drive capacity and total free space, but where is all that junk you've saved, and what is it? Plunging down through directory trees to discover (totally legally!) downloaded movies and bloated applications is a royal pain. Wouldn't it be nice to see where all the biggest useless junk is without hunting around?

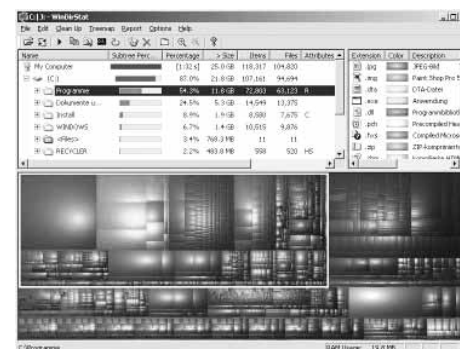
Yup, sure would.

• **WinDirStat** (pictured at right, top) is one of the best out there, but it's so damn *ugly*. I'm sure its squarish, fake-bubbly, odd-colored sections appeal to lots of folks, but to me, bleah. Its website refers to "cushion shading," which must be the spotlight effect on each square that makes it resemble a cushion or pillow rather than a flat tile.

Aesthetics aside, the program works beautifully. You can scan your whole hard drive or just a particular folder and get both a listing and the aforementioned graphical representation of every single folder and file in there, arranged by size. Click to expand the largest directories, exposing giant files you'd forgotten about and really don't need cluttering things up. Deleting one huge file (right from the interface, sweet) is a lot easier than compressing 1,300 Word documents to gain a smidgen of space, huh?

Oh, and WinDirStat's progress indicators are little Pac-Man-looking sprites that chomp back and forth when a scan is in progress. So that's adorable.

• **Folder Size Freeware** from MindGems has much more elegant graphics, giving you the choice of simple but pretty bar or pie charts. The chart is interactive, so it does a little animation (which you can turn off if you want) when



you drill down to a new folder. You can easily toggle between GB, MB, KB and just plain bytes; go backward and forward to retrace your steps between folders; and delete and open the Windows file explorer right from the interface. You can even run it by right-clicking any folder in Explorer. Actually, I think this might replace WinDirStat as my favorite.

This program has just informed me that my Tears for Fears music folder is somehow bigger than my Muse folder, despite having fewer albums. Oh, apparently I ripped one of them twice at different and extravagant bit rates. What, they're cool.

• **Free Disk Analyzer** from Extensoft starts scanning as soon as you open the program, and defaults to scanning your main system disk. Its pie chart compares your current folder to the whole disk, while only the clickable list of folders shows the percentage of space taken up in the current directory. One nice feature is its list of all the largest files on your disk, no matter what the location in the directory tree. Of course, this shows you system files like pagefile.sys (your virtual memory file, usually equal to or larger than the amount of memory you have installed on your system) or hiberfil.sys (about the same size and required if you use the hibernation mode). Don't delete those.

My one wish for any of these tools is an export option, so I can get a plain text list of folder sizes. Pay versions of some programs do that, but for free, one has to be content with pictures and lists.

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Weekly Dish

Notes from the local food scene

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

• **Same fare, new name:** The Rustic Bistro Café, 6 Bedford Farms Road, Bedford, 645-8300, is now Seed to Stalk Café and Catering (www.theseed-to-stalk.com) and is under the ownership of former Rustic Leaf owner Josh Enright and Amber Grogan of Jewell and the Beanstalk in Manchester. The Rustic Leaf Bistro in Milford is also under new ownership. “I am sad to leave the Bistro but excited to start on our new business,” Enright said in an e-mail. “We are getting back to our roots with local, fresh from the farm to the table, organics, gardens, and New Hampshire-made breads, produce, meats, coffee.”

• **Beer in the Gate City:** The Beer Store (www.thebeerstorenh.com, 889-2242) is slated to open at 433 Amherst St. in Nashua in mid-June. The store will feature craft, import and domestic beer as well as specialty food items. Weekly beer tastings will be conducted at the shop. The store will be open Monday through Wednesday, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

• **Moe’s is back in Manchester:** Moe’s Italian Sandwiches (www.moesitaliansandwiches.com, 669-6637) opened at 796 Elm St. in Manchester on May 16. The shop, which celebrated its 52nd anniversary this year, will be open daily from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

• **No cooking necessary:** The Raw Kitchen will host a starter class for those interested in learning how to prepare raw vegan foods at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 W. Broadway, Derry, on Saturday, June 11, from 2 to 4 p.m. The class costs \$60. Call 216-1969 or e-mail therawkitchen.us@gmail.com to register.

• **A four-course game:** O’Brien’s Sports Bar, 118 Main St., Nashua, 512-9546, www.obrienssportsbar.com, will host a wild game dinner, paired with Imperial Porter and Shipyard Old Thumper ESA, on Tuesday, June 14, at 6 p.m. The dinner will feature salad, Cajun fried alligator tail, ostrich marsala, venison stew, turducken and a brownie sundae.

• **Games at the Kitchen:** Kitchen Cravings, 15 Airport Road, Gilford, 528-0001, www.kitchencravingsnh.com, will hold its second Annual Bike Games and Bar-B-Q on Wednesday, June 15. The event will feature four motorcycle games — the slow race, plank ride, obstacle and the weenie bike.

• **Wine tasters wanted:** IncrediBREW, 112 DW Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, www.incredibrew.com, is looking for wine-lovers to taste a flight of wines on Thursday, June 16, at 7 p.m. No experience is necessary but testers must enjoy a wide range of wines from hearty reds to delicate whites. Call to reserve a spot.

• **Get ready to rock:** Tickets are on sale for the Rock ‘n’ Ribfest, hosted by The Rotary Club of Nashua West, that will be held at Anheuser-Busch in Merrimack on Friday, June 17, through Sunday, June 19. The event

Continued on page 38

Restaurant pops up in a school library

Rundlett will host a meal to benefit the Friendly Kitchen

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

The library of Rundlett Middle School will be transformed into a gourmet restaurant for one night to raise money for the rebuilding of the Friendly Kitchen in Concord. The Friendly Kitchen, run out of Hope House, was destroyed in an early morning fire on April 30. When the blaze broke out, the dinner volunteers at the Kitchen temporarily moved the operation to a nearby church.

“Our mission goes on. We’ve never missed a meal; we are never going to miss a meal,” said Friendly Kitchen board member Bruce Parish, owner of Hermanos Cocina Mexicana in Concord.

Associated Press food editor J.M. Hirsch, of Concord, has spearheaded the efforts to pull together a pop-up restaurant in the Capital City as a fundraiser for the Kitchen. The Dinner for Hope will be held at the middle school on Sunday, June 12, with seatings at 4 and 7 p.m.

“We’ve all encountered our fair share of rubber chicken fundraising dinners; those are all forgettable,” Hirsch said. “We wanted to do something really exciting ... I wanted to take it further and have a fun event so people would be that much more enthused about lending a hand.”

Pop-up restaurants, Hirsch noted, are very popular on the West Coast and in New York City and Boston.

“I haven’t encountered anything like that in New Hampshire, so it is a great opportunity to try it out,” Hirsch said. “I also like the symbolism of it — we’re using donated food, donated time ... and are creating something from nothing, much like they do [at the Friendly Kitchen].”

Hirsch likes the challenge of putting together such a project. “We can build something so meaningful for one night that can feed so many people for so many nights,” he said.

The disadvantage of organizing such an event in the Granite State, Hirsch said, is that pop-up restaurants are typically housed in

warehouses or “funky venues” with industrial kitchens. He looked at setting up an eatery in airplane hangar but there was no commercial kitchen available nearby. He also considered building a kitchen, which he said would have been fun but did not fit into the desired time frame. Organizers finally decided on holding the dinner at a local school.

“We don’t think schools are associated with a high-end restaurant, they are usually associated with bad lunch food, and we like the irony of that,” Hirsch said. After gaining permission from the city and school district, the group settled on Rundlett Middle School, citing its layout and facilities as most appropriate for their project. They decided to hold the dinner in the school library.

“We thought, how neat would it be eat a five-course meal sitting amongst the stacks?” Hirsch said. Volunteers from the local arts community have stepped up to decorate and create centerpieces for the space and transform it into a 100-seat dining room.

“There is just an army of people dedicating their time and energy to make this happen,” Hirsch said.

While the menu has not been set yet, Hirsch said chefs Alison Laden of Buckley’s Great Steaks in Merrimack, Adam Olson of Greenwood’s at Canterbury Shaker Village and Joseph DeVita from Hirsch’s AP kitchen will create five upscale school-food themed courses. “Don’t be surprised if they’re inspired by the tater tots of the world,” Hirsch said.

Parish said the Friendly Kitchen board of directors still must appear at a planning board hearing and city council meeting to gain approval on rebuilding plans. The board has already met with the Kitchen’s abutters and is keeping them updated on all available information.

Hirsch said it was difficult to calculate a fundraising goal but he hopes for the dinner to bring in \$15,000 to \$20,000 between ticket sales, donations and a silent auction.

“We still don’t have a figure on the total cost; we are just at a standstill point waiting for the process to proceed,” Parish said.



Gov. John Lynch helps prepare meals at the Friendly Kitchen in Concord. Courtesy photos

“Everyone been great working with us and are speeding things up as much as they can.”

“We do realize we are asking a lot of the city to help us do this quickly, but the city knows full well how important our mission is and that there’s no one else to do what we do,” he said. “We served almost 60,000 meals last year ... a lot of people depend on us.”

Meals are now being served from the basement of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, which Parish said has allowed for the focus to be on the rebuilding efforts.

“This just shows what a community of caring people can do when they put their minds to it,” Hirsch said. “This is how the Friendly Kitchen has gone on for so long and done so much.”

Dinner for Hope

When: Sunday, June 12, at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Where: Rundlett Middle School, 144 South St., Concord

Tickets: \$75 at www.thefriendlykitchen.org or at Butter’s Fine Food and Wine in Concord.

Harvest in Hooksett

Shop gears up for its first summer

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Most people stop by Johnson Golden Harvest in Hooksett for their produce and New Hampshire-made products, but others make the trip for a photo op, posing with the shop’s pumpkins in the fall or with the carved wood bears in the spring, and some come only for conversation.

“That’s exactly what we wanted to be,” said Karen Johnson, of the store she opened with her husband Brian last August. Johnson said that while shop was busier than they thought it would be over the winter, she anticipates only opening on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays during upcoming winter

seasons — “and maybe we will take the business into another direction,” she added.

The most popular produce items sold at the shop during the winter were tomatoes grown in a Maine greenhouse. “We couldn’t keep them in here long enough,” Johnson said, adding that she and her husband also made trips to Boston for produce during the winter for items that were not being grown in the Granite State.

“In the winter we stick to stuff from the East Coast,” Johnson noted. “That’s important to a lot of people.”

“It would be nice if we could get all produce locally year-round,” she continued. “There are more farms now, so we can see that happening in the future; a lot of people

have started using greenhouses.”

The Johnsons are now preparing for their first full summer season at the shop and are readying to bring in beet and salad greens, cauliflower, cabbage, beans, cucumbers and zucchini throughout the month of June.

“In mid-June all of the good stuff starts coming in,” Johnson said.

Johnson is looking forward to adding fresh local berries to the shop’s inventory — strawberries in June, blueberries and raspberries in July.

“I’m really looking forward to the berries. I love the berries; people love the berries,” she said. Fresh local corn will start being sold at the shop in July. To meet demand, the Johnsons are now offering strawberries

FOOD

and corn grown elsewhere and were cleared out of both over Memorial Day weekend. "I sold more corn over that weekend than I did on weekends last summer," Johnson said. Over the holiday weekend, the store's shelves were also cleared of 20 loaves of fresh baked bread and 35 pies.

Some brightly colored local produce now fills the wooden crates in what Johnson said is her favorite season at the shop yet. Barrels and boxes are overflowing with onions, garlic, pears, apples, tomatoes (local tomatoes will come in at the beginning of August), peppers, summer squash and 10-inch-long carrots ("People think because they're big they're tough but they are the sweetest, best carrots," Johnson said).

The shelves of a glass-front refrigerator are lined with meat from Miles Smith Beef Farm in Loudon, bacon from Fox Country Smokehouse in Canterbury and cheese from Heart Song Farm in Gilmanton Ironworks, plus eggplant, organic greens, rhubarb and radishes.

As produce nears its expiration or becomes over-ripe, Johnson keeps it in a separate basket and alerts customers who prefer over-ripe vegetables. She also often donates produce to the Penacook Food Pantry.

Local products including Molly Lane Kitchen jams and jellies from Pittsfield, Blackwater Mustard from Contoocook, chutney from Chutney House in Bow, Doug's Best Salsa from Hooksett and popcorn from Michele's Totally Awesome Popcorn in Epsom line wooden shelves bordering the shop's walls.

"We're always bringing in new stuff," Johnson said, adding that she usually offers samples of local products on Saturdays.

Also local at the shop are the flowers and herbs serving as a colorful greeting to those visiting the shop. While the potted herbs sold at the store are grown at Pleasant View in Pembroke, Johnson decided to plant some of her own in a small mulched plot on the side of the store, housed in a small wooden shack with green trim.

"We'll see what happens," Johnson said of her new garden. "I'll do something with it."

This past year at the shop has been fun, but coming into a new business, the couple had a lot to learn, Johnson said.



Carrots from Johnson Golden Harvest in Hooksett. Angel Roy photos

"We still have a lot more to learn but we're more relaxed now," she said. Johnson noted that while the store has the feel of a farmers market, it is a place that customers can shop at daily rather than just once a week.

"Farmers markets are so rushed and crazy," she said. "Here we build relationships with everyone that comes in."

Johnson mans the shop solo as her husband got his full-time job back right before the shop was set to open.

The early pursuit of Brian's dream of opening his own produce shop (he worked 20 years at Queen City Farm in Manchester) started in August 2009 when the Johnsons set up a table under a tent on Route 106 in Pembroke for the season. They were soon approached with an opportunity for them to build a year-round shop by the owner of the land where Johnson Golden Harvest now sits on West River Road.

"He wants to bring the area back to the way it was and wanted to start with a farmers market," Johnson said. "It was our dream and the start of what [the landowner] wanted to do. It's kind of neat how it all turned out."

Johnson Golden Harvest

412 W. River Road, Hooksett, 210-2031,
www.johnsongoldenharvest.com
Hours: Monday through Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Food Listings

Farmers markets

- **AMHERST** at the Village Green on Church Street, Thursdays through October from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- **AMHERST — ST. PAUL** at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3 Craftsman Lane, www.stpaul-amherst.org, on Fridays from 4 to 7 p.m.
- **ATKINSON** at the Atkinson Community Center parking lot, 4 Main St., www.awcc-nh.org/awcc/Farmers_Market.html, Wednesdays from 3 to 7 p.m. starting June 29.
- **BARRINGTON** at Route 9 and 125 across from Calef's Country Store, on Saturdays through September, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **BEDFORD** at Benedictine Park off Route 101 on Wallace Road, www.bedfordfarmersmarket.org, Tuesdays 3 to 6 p.m., June 21 through Oct. 25.
- **CANTERBURY** in the Elkins

Library parking lot on Center Road, ccfma.net, Wednesdays from 4 to 6:30 p.m. through October.

- **CONTOOCOOL** at Fountain Square in front of the train depot, (find them on Facebook), Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon, from June 18 through Oct. 15.
- **CONCORD** on Capitol Street next to the state house, on Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. to noon.
- **CONCORD — THE HEIGHTS** at Stove Barn, 249 Loudon Road in Concord, www.facebook.com/HeightsFarmersMarket, on Thursdays from 3 to 7 p.m.
- **DEERFIELD** at the Arts & Crafts Building, Deerfield Fair Grounds, entrance on Route 43, farmersmarket.deerfield-nh.us, on Fridays, from 3 to 7 p.m., June 10 through Sept. 23.
- **DERRY** at Derry Park Park on West Broadway, www.derry.nh.us, on Wednesdays, 3 to 7 p.m., July 6

through Sept. 28.

- **DOVER** Dover Chamber of Commerce, 550 Central Ave., www.seacoastgrowers.org, on Wednesdays, 2:15 to 6 p.m., through Oct. 12.
- **DURHAM** Mill Road Plaza, www.seacoastgrowers.org, on Mondays from 2:15 to 5:30 p.m. through Oct. 3.
- **EXETER** held at Swasey Parkway on Thursday from 2:15 to 5:30 p.m. See www.seacoastgrowers.org.
- **HAMPTON** Sacred Heart Church School parking lot, 289 Lafayette Road, www.seacoastgrowers.org, on Tuesdays from 3 to 6 p.m., through Oct. 11.
- **HENNIKER** 931 Flanders Road, www.hennikerfarmersmarket.us, Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m., July through October.
- **HILLSBOROUGH** at Butler Park, corner of Main and Central streets, Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon,

Continued on page 38

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FOOD

Hot dog cart happiness

Jean's Express keeps owner and customers smiling

By Angel Roy
 aroy@hippopress.com

For the last 20 years, Eugenia Carbone has watched the children of Nashua grow up, go to college, get married and have children of their own — all from a cloth camp chair behind her stainless steel hot dog cart in front of the cannons at Greeley Park.

"They all come back to see me and I love it, I really do," Carbone said. Carbone, a former manager of a fast food chain, opened Jean's Express Dogs in 1991 at the suggestion of her husband, Paul.

"He had this great idea so I tried it once and said this is for me," she said. "I'm my own boss. I make sure everything is where it is supposed to be."

Her husband continues to be the "backbone" of the business and he sees that Carbone has all the supplies she needs, power washes her cart every afternoon and dices the onions for her vast selections of toppings, she said. Cart customers may opt to top their dogs with ketchup, mustard, relish, raw onion, spicy onions (Carbone uses her brother-in-law's recipe), sauerkraut, chili and cheese. Carbone noted the most popular topping combo at her cart is "MRO" — mustard, relish and onions — and her own favorite mix is chili, raw onion and mustard. In the summertime she makes sure to have four bottles of ketchup on hand instead of one, as she usually sees more young customers.

"Some people want everything on them and I don't know how they eat it," Carbone said. "There is no room for a hot dog."

While most New Yorkers prefer their "slop on top," Carbone dresses her dogs on the bottom so people do not wear their toppings.

"A lot of people don't realize how messy it can get unless you put it on a table to eat it," she said. "Most of my customers just eat [their hot dogs] on the fly."

On a steady day, Carbone said, she can sell 40 to 50 Kayem franks, and she has sold up to 150 on her busiest days. "I'm always ready; I have to be," she said.

On a recent warm day, a Nashua Catholic Regional Junior High School gym class made their way down to the cart.

"Hey kids, I've got to put some more hot dogs in and we'll be ready to rock and roll," Carbone said, rushing to the cooler in her trunk bed to fill her steamer with fresh dogs. "Who needs what? Step right up."

Carbone unfolds a cardboard tray for each order, placing a straw and napkin in every one before pulling out a bun. She then fills the bun with the customer's choice of toppings before snatching a dog from the steamer and placing it on top. The dressed dog is wrapped in wax paper and nestled into the box with a can



Eugenia Carbone has been selling hot dogs at Greeley Park for 20 years. Angel Roy photos

of soda and/or a bag of chips; hot dogs, soda and chips are the only items sold at her two-wheeled cart that boasts a large blue and white umbrella.

"I keep it very simple," Carbone said. "Every year people say I should carry soft pretzels — I don't even like to carry different brands of chips ... it gets too complicated."

"I try not to run out of things ever, and if I do, it's my own fault," she said.

Carbone asks that her customers return their empty soda cans to the cart so she can recycle them and donate the money to the Children's Christmas Club at the Lafayette Club in Nashua, where she bartends. The program purchases toys to give to underprivileged children during the holiday season.

Carbone opens her hot dog cart every spring when it's warm enough and has been out as early as the end of March. She even dragged out her cart during the April Fool's Day blizzard in 1997.

"I brought a shovel and my first customer took it and cleared a path from the sidewalk to the cart," she said. Carbone usually stays open until Columbus Day, as after then the weather becomes "too iffy."

"It's about consistency," Carbone said, adding that she serves dogs at the park daily from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and tries to stay open a little later on weekends. "As long as people are out buying, I'm here," she said.

"I don't mind getting up and going to work — I really don't," she continued. "Growing up people would always ask what I wanted to be and all I ever said was that I wanted to be happy and I am, I'm very happy."

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FOOD

Weekly Dish

continued from page 34

will feature ribbers from all over the country, live music, hot air balloon rides and activities for children. Tickets cost \$5 in advance at www.rotaryribfest.org until June 10 and \$7 at the gate.

- **Barbecue benefit:** A Bow Wow Bedford Bark-B-Q will be held at Riley Field on Nashua Road in Bedford on Saturday, June 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will feature fare from T-Bones, face-painting, raffles and vendors. Dogs will be on hand for adoption and all proceeds will benefit the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire. Call 472-5714 for more information.

- **Chef meet and greet:** At “After Work with Chef Nicole” at T-Bones, 25 S. River Road, Bedford, 641-6100, www.t-bones.com, on Monday, June 20, from 5 to 7 p.m., T-Bones and Cactus Jack’s chef Nicole Barreira will serve up All-American and Playoff Punch, queso dip with hand-fried tortilla chips and popcorn samples. Barreira will also share cooking tips and a wine expert will be on hand to answer questions.

- **An All-American tasting:** Concord Cooperative Market, 24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, www.concordfoodcoop.coop will hold a “Red, White and Blues” wine tasting on Thursday, June 23, from 6 to 8 p.m. The Sharon Jones Trio will perform. Guests are asked to bring a canned good to donate to the New Hampshire Food Bank.

- **Goat milk vs. cow milk:** The Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester, will host Caitlin Murphy of Fox’s Pride Dairy Goats in the Winchell Room on Thursday, June 23, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Murphy, who will bring a goat to the presentation, will share the benefits and uses of goat milk. Call 624-6550 x323 for more information.

- **Tea time:** The Saffron Bistro, 80 Main St., Nashua, 883-2100, www.thesaffronbistro.com, will host an afternoon tea on Saturday, June 25, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will feature tea sandwiches, pastries, scones, fruit and tea. The cost is \$25 and reservations are required.

- **Wine and cheese on the farm:** A “Summer Solstice” burgundy wine and cheese blind tasting will be held at The General Butler Farm, 3 Ledge Farm Road, Nottingham, 724-4500, on Saturday, June 25, at 6 p.m. Guests will be asked to bring an inexpensive bottle of red or white burgundy wine (including pinot noir and chardonnay) and cover the bottle, to ensure a true blind tasting. Kathy Campbell of Cornucopia Wine and Cheese Market in Exeter will explain wine and cheese pairings. Reservations are required.

- **Share a meal with the community:** Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1½ Hood Road, Derry, will offer a free community meal on Sunday, June 26, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The summer dinner will feature salad, fruit, noodle kugel and dessert.

July through September.

- **HOOKSETT** on Hooksett Road near Walgreen’s and Goodwill, (find them on Facebook) Wednesdays from 4 to 7 p.m., July 6 through September.

- **JAFFREY** Coll’s Farmstand parking lot on Old Sharon Road off Route 202, Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, July through September.

- **LACONIA** City Hall parking lot on Beacon Street, www.laconiafarmersmarket.com, Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon, June 25 through Oct. 1.

- **LACONIA — MAIN STREET** Municipal parking lot between Main and Pleasant streets (find them on Facebook), Thursdays, 3 to 7 p.m. through October.

- **LEE** Old Fire Station on Route 155, Thursdays from 3 to 6 p.m., through Sept.

- **MANCHESTER** held on Concord Street near Victory Park in the downtown area will open for the season on Thurs., June 16, and run Thursdays from 3 to 6:30 p.m. through Oct. 20.

- **MERRIMACK** at Tractor Supply Co., 515 DW Highway, Wednesdays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., through Sept. 28.

- **MILFORD** at Granite Town Plaza on Elm Street, www.milfordnhfarmersmarket.com, Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon, June 18 through Oct.

- **NASHUA — SUNDAY** The Main Street Bridge Farmers Market in Nashua will open on Sun., June 5, and run Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Oct. 23.

- **NASHUA — FRIDAY** The City Hall Plaza Farmers Market in Nashua will open Friday, June 17, and run Fridays from noon to 6 p.m. and run weekly through Sept. 30.

- **NEW BOSTON** Town Common, www.newbostonfarmersmarket.webs.com or find them on Facebook, Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon through October.

- **NEWMARKET** Carpenter’s Old English Greenhouse, 220 S. Main St., on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., June through September.

- **NORTHWOOD** the junction of Routes 4, 43 and 202/9, northwoodfarmersmarket.blogspot.com, Thursdays, 3 to 6:30 p.m., through October.

- **NOTTINGHAM** at Blaisdell Memorial Library, Sundays through October, 1 to 4 p.m.

- **PENACOOK** Rolfé Homestead, 11 Penacook St., Mondays from 4:30 to 7 p.m., June 20 through October.

- **PETERBOROUGH** in Depot Square, www.peterboroughfarmersmarket.webs.com, on Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. through October.

- **PLAISTOW** 145 Main St., Thursdays from 2 to 6 p.m., Aug. 4 through Oct. 20.

- **PORTSMOUTH** held in the City Hall lot at 1 Junkins Ave. on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. See www.seacoastgrowers.org.

- **RYE** Rye Center, across from the public library, ryeturninggreen.com/farmers-market, on Wednesdays, June 22 through Sept. 28, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.

- **SALEM** Lake Street Garden

Center, 37 Lake St., www.salemnh-farmersmarket.com, Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. Spring market has one final day, June 19. Check website for information on summer market, which is scheduled to run July 10 through Oct. 30.

- **TEMPLE** at the Town Common on Route 45 Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. through October.

- **TILTON — TANGER OUTLETS** at Exit 20 off Interstate 93 on Wednesdays, June 22 through Sept. 21, from 3 to 6 p.m.

- **WARNER** Town Hall Lawn, Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., through October.

- **WEARE** the We Are 1 Farmers Market is at the Gazebo, Fridays from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., from June 17 through Oct. 7. A winter market will run Fridays from 4 to 6 p.m. at 290 Quaker St. See www.weare1farmersmarket.org.

- **FOOD MAPS** The NH chapter of the Northeast Organic Farming Association offers maps (available in print from NOFA-NH at 224-5022 or info@nofanh.org or in an interactive version at www.nofanh.org) showing locations of organically produced foods across the state. Online, click “Organic Farms and Land Care.” The site lists farms by region and can narrow down the search by type of food.

- **NH ONLINE FARMERS MARKET** www.nhfarms.com offers links to NH farms selling fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy, maple and honey products, flowers, baked goods and more.

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DRINK

Oak & wine

Barrels, barriques and tonneau

By Paulette Eschrich
food@hippopress.com

Many reviews of wines, mine included, often mention whether the wine has been “oaked” and if so for how long and in what type of barrel. Does it make a difference if the winemaker uses French, American or some other type of oak? Why oak and not another wood like cedar or teak? How often can a barrel be reused, and what difference is there if the barrel is new? Who decides how long to age a wine in oak? Are oaked wines more expensive? Ultimately, how does the use of oak affect the taste of the wine?

Wines were originally produced and transported in earthenware amphorae. In Georgia, traditional wines are still fermented and aged in clay jars called *kvevri* that are planted in the ground up to their neck to naturally regulate their temperature. Shipwrecks often contain clay vessels that were used to transport many liquids including wines. Wineries sought alternative “packaging” to minimize breakage, eventually turning to wood barrels.

Oak was selected for wine barrels for several reasons. Oak has the ability to be bent, making it easier to shape the barrel staves. Structurally, oak is less porous and thus more waterproof, meaning that there is less leakage and loss of the precious wine. It was also discovered that oak contributed pleasant attributes to the wine, both from the oak itself and from the amount of air that permeated the barrel. Air that is introduced gradually and in small amounts oxidizes and ages the wine. This softens the fruit and tannins as well as integrating the various components of the flavors and aromas. The size of the barrel and thus the volume of wine also impact the ratio of air to liquid, another factor in the aging calculation.

Many types of oak, often from the trees that were local to the winery, are used — French, American, Portuguese, Hungarian, Slovenian, etc. Winemakers have learned the subtle differences and often use barrels from multiple sources to add complexity to a wine or to better match the oak type to specific grapes. In the case of French oak, premium wines may employ barrels from specific forests — Limousin, Nevers, Allier — and specific barrel makers, or coopers.

Another layer of complexity (or confusion to the average wine drinker) is in the construction, preparation and maintenance of the barrels. Jancis Robinson in *The Oxford Companion to Wine* gets into the details of sawing versus splitting the wood, air versus kiln drying, toasting, and assembly. In the case of French oak, premium wines may employ barrels from specific forests — Limousin, Nevers, Allier — and specific barrel makers, or coopers. The barrels add wood tannins to the tannins in the grape skins, seeds and stems. Toasting or charring the interior of a barrel buffers the wood tannins and contributes a variety of flavors ranging from

vanilla to coffee to toasted bread to caramel to tobacco smoke to the finished wine. Oak can also bring more viscosity, texture and creaminess to a wine.

Barrels come in a wide range of sizes, and even where some are no longer in use, their names still are used to measure volumes of wine: *feuillette*, *tonneau*, *fuder*, and *pipe*. The most common size is a *barrique* that holds 59 gallons. In Thomas Jefferson's day, orders were placed with the winery for wine by the cask. The wine was shipped in the barrel and the buyer stored the barrel in the cellar, taking a *carafe* or *decanter* to fill for dinner. Mr. Jefferson knew that it was common for wine to be siphoned off by various parties along the transportation route, often replaced with inferior wine, water, or other liquids. He insisted that the winery bottle his cask's worth (at the added expense of the bottles and corks) prior to shipping to ensure that the wine arrived intact.

Since new wine barrels average \$1,000 each, the actual price dependent on many of the variables listed above, the acquisition of this equipment is a major expense for wineries. If a wine has been aged for 9 or 10 months, then the winery can use the same barrels for the next vintage. If, by law or preference, the wine is aged longer in the barrels, then multiple sets of barrels must be purchased and housed. Add to that the mix of new oak (barrels used for the first time) and barrels that are in their second or third year of use, and you have a lot of options to consider as a winemaker. After a point the barrels become "neutral," meaning that they no longer contribute flavors to the wine. These may still be used as is or may be reconditioned with new heads or in other ways to extend their useful life.

As a consumer, you may notice the difference in American and French oak, the two most prevalent types in use today. American oak imparts a stronger, sweeter oak flavor with more pronounced vanilla and some astringency. French oak is subtler, adding finesse and elegance, with less obvious woodiness.

In many parts of Europe the minimum length of time a wine can spend in oak is set by law and tied to labeling terminology. Terms like *crianza* on a Spanish red or *reserva* on Chianti denote specific minimum aging requirements, both in oak and sometimes in bottle as well.

So how does a winemaker produce an inexpensive wine with oak given the obvious expense involved? Simply, oak chips. Modern winemakers introduce less expensive oak chips into wine in stainless steel tanks or neutral barrels to extract the desired degree of flavors. This provides a lower-cost alternative, although some reviewers find the wines produced this way to be more overtly oaky.

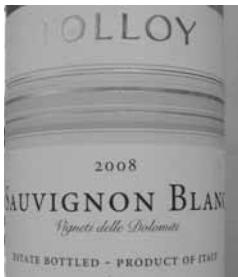
Paulette Eschrich works at LaBelle Winery in New Hampshire and leads a monthly wine book club at WineNot Boutique in Nashua.

DRINK

Red, white and green A lot of wine, a little cash

When wine drinkers are looking for extra-light whites, they often turn to sauvignon blancs. We took a look at two this week.

The first was a **2007 Tohu Sauvignon Blanc** from Marlborough, New Zealand (\$14.99). This wine had a fresh smell — a green woodiness and hints of kiwi. Though sauvignon blancs can be known for being grassy, this one wasn't really. It was tart but had a fullness — a little toasty, a little creamy — on the finish. The serious wine-lover guessed that this surprising roundness was the result of malolactic fermentation. Tasting notes from the winemaker's 2009 sauvignon blanc do mention that being part of the process. The wine would be good to drink on its own but would probably pair well with seafood. Surprisingly, it also went well with a mild pizza we were



eating that night.

The **2008 Tolloy Sauvignon Blanc** from Italy (\$13.99, currently on sale for \$10.99) offers a different look at the grape. This wine was not as round as the Tohu but it

also did not have flavors that were as strong. The aroma was sharp and a little funky, like a french Sancerre (which is a sauvignon blanc). We could taste a light honey dew melon flavor in the Tolloy. This wine didn't stand up as well on its own as the Tohu did, but should pair well with raw oysters or a lemon chicken.

Each week in "Red, White & Green," two wine-lovers look at red and white wines, none over \$20 (and most under \$15), in an attempt to find some great bottles for good prices. All prices are according to the state liquor store (nh.liquor.state.nh.us) unless otherwise stated.

Drink Listings

Breweries/Distilleries/Cider

• **ANHEUSER-BUSCH** 221 DW Hwy, Merrimack. Complimentary tours include a visit to the Clydesdale Hamlet, home of the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 595-1202.

• **FARNUM HILL CIDERS** 98 Poverty Lane, Lebanon, 448-1511, www.farnumhillciders.com

• **ELM CITY BREWING COMPANY** Colony Mill Marketplace, 222 West St., Keene, 355-3335, www.elmcitybrewing.com. Restaurant, brewery and pub, open Mon.-Thurs., 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to midnight; Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

• **REDHOOK BREWERY** 35 Corporate Drive, Pease Tradeport, Portsmouth, www.redhook.com, produces Redhook ales and features the Cataqua Public House offering brews and a pub menu. Tours offered Monday and Tuesday at 2 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday at noon, 1, 3 and 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday every hour on the hour from noon to 4 p.m.; Sunday every hour on the hour from 1 to 4 p.m. For private tours, call 430-8600 ext.

327.

• **SMUTTYNOSE** 225 Heritage Ave., Portsmouth, smuttynose.com, 436-4026. Free tours to the public Friday at 3 p.m. and Saturday at 11 a.m.

• **TUCKERMAN BREWING COMPANY** 64 Hobbs St., Conway, 447-5400, www.tuckermanbrewing.com, offers tours every Saturday at 3 p.m.

Classes/workshops on wine/beer making

• **SUMMER WINEFEST** IncredibleBREW, 112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, www.incredibrew.com, will host a "Summer Jammin' Winefest" on Fri., June 10, at 6 p.m. Participants will use Laurel Hill Jams & Jellies to create such wines as Green Apple Riesling and Chocolate Raspberry Pot. The cost is \$55.

• **PIZZA BREWFEST** IncredibleBREW, 112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, www.incredibrew.com, will also host a Pizza Brewfest on Tues., June 14, at 6 p.m., during which participants will brew Amsterdam Light, Another Fine Lager, Mad Hatter #9, Beavertooth Pale Ale, Summer

Sunshine and Majestic Pale Ale. The cost is \$35 per case.

Classes/workshops on beer/wine tasting

• **WINENOT BOUTIQUE** 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, www.winenotboutique.com, offers six-week course on different subjects related to wine. Sign up for all six classes or for individual sessions.

• **WINE SOCIETY** (650 Amherst St. #9 in Nashua, 883-4114; www.winesociety.us) offers classes for wine-lovers of all levels. New sessions start every few months.

Special meals

• **WINE DINNER** 900 Degrees Pizzeria, 50 Dow St., Manchester, 641-0900, www.900degrees.com, will hold a wine dinner on Wed., June 15, at 6 p.m. The four-course meal, which will be served on the deck, weather permitting, will feature a seafood dish, stuffed mushrooms, a specialty pizza and a summer berry "calzone." Wines will include Est Est Est!, an Italian white blend, Trivento Amado Sur, a Malbec blend, Banfi Rosa Regale and Cupcake Red Velvet. The dinner is \$30 and reservations are required.

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Robert Mondavi Fume Blanc, Napa Valley

Highly Recommended! "Medium-full body; forward, grassy, citrus and peach flavors with a pleasing mouthfeel." *2/10, CA Grapevine*

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Sebastiani Chardonnay

91 Pts. Best Buy! "It's delicious and zesty, filled with pineapple, pear, green apple, honey and oak, wrapped into a texture of buttercream and with a long, spicy finish. What a great price." *6/11 Wine Enthusiast*

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POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS,
GAMES, COMICS,
MOVIES, DVDS,
TV AND MORE

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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Lisa Parsons at lparkers@hippopress.com. To get your author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

FILM pg47



• *X-Men: First Class* **A-**



• *Super 8* **A**



• *Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer* **C**

Dork vs. Dork: *Super 8*

Dueling movie geeks return for another summer of pre-judging sci-fi and action movies



Con: Oh boy! What better way to start off (sorta) summer than with a Spielberg-produced alien movie?

While the premise (a troop of neighborhood scamps investigates a train derailment and the eerie something that escaped it) is intriguing on the surface, there is a Seawolf class nuclear attack submarine of compromise running beneath it. If Spielberg and J.J. Abrams were dishing out *The Sandlot* + *Predator* I'd be in for a matinee, but, make no mistake, that is not what you are going to get. *Super 8* will be a confusing peril-less thriller where all the action occurs slightly up and to the left of the screen and each child uses his unique talents to Goonie his way through the final reel. Which talents? Oh, the very ones that make them social outcasts as evidenced by the first third of the film. I suppose alternately they might befriend the escaped "something" and defend it from the government and its deadly walkie-talkies.

And speaking of Abrams: while he may have hit a solid double with the *Star Trek* reboot, let us not discount his otherwise lacking track record. He stretched two good seasons of *Lost* across six years, induced nationwide motion sickness with *Cloverfield* and unleashed Jennifer Garner's bizarre chin on an unsuspecting audience via *Alias*. Frankly, he is one indomitable heroine away from Joss Whedon territory.

Oh, well, at least *Super 8* will use the always beloved trope of "films about people making a film" that every Media Studies freshman can mine for a term paper.

DAN RESPONDS

Look, I know that *Super 8* isn't the kind of *Hipster Bait* that would make you buy a new pair of skinny jeans and break out your urban dictionary to discover a new definition for ironic, but movies really did have plots and story and characters at one time. Look it up, it's true. Even that late-night *Fright Night* series had dialogue between the guy dressed as a giant underwater squid and the cowering female in the angora sweater. Showing the Big Bad does not make the movie any better. Hitchcock knew this and even Spielberg did, once. If Abrams learns that lesson with *Super 8*, you can too.



Pro: Finally! We can kick off the summer with an original blockbuster that isn't an origin story for a Marvel comic that no one reads (*Thor*) or everyone already knows (*X-Men*).

There was a time when Steven Spielberg knew how to dominate the summer without the crutches of CGI. It's was called story-telling back then, and with J.J. Abrams aboard as writer and director, *Super 8* just may be what film-lovers need to remind them of what good movies used to be. Yeah, I know, my esteemed colleague on the other side of this page is going to cry about how I'm an old man and why don't I just pop in my old VHS videos of *Fright Night* features with guys in rubber monster suits. But I'll take that, and *Super 8*, any day over the sound and fury signifying nothing of the Transformers set.

What's that you say? *Super 8* is just an *E.T.* remake? Abrams turned the rotting *Star Trek* franchise corpse into a vibrant and exciting new vehicle, and as for *Lost*, beats me what the heck was happening half the time, but at least it was engaging.

Isn't it time for original movies? Don't we deserve more than rehashed superheroes and Natalie Portman? Spielberg and Abrams will deliver, and just maybe we'll remember what we've lost.

GLENN RESPONDS

OK, first, I don't think anybody in *Fright Night* wore a rubber monster suit; second, Steven Spielberg was also a producer on the Transformers film you so thoughtlessly loathe. You're claiming that the first summer film of note NOT containing a flappy cape or two automatically qualifies as some rose-tinted time machine back to the "Good Old Days" of summer films. Was the story of the *Star Trek* reboot really a thoughtful masterpiece? Really? 'Cause I thought it involved time-travel, Vulcans who became evil AND come from an alternate reality and dumping explosives into a black hole. *Super 8*? More like *Super* (this) Ain't.



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POP CULTURE:

CDS

Black Lips, *Arabia Mountain*
Vice Records, June 7



I can't in good conscience pronounce Black Lips the Ramones or Sex Pistols of the new millennium.

They're not subversive enough, to begin with, either politically or musically, and the sounds on their newest LP are a microwave potluck of the above-mentioned oldbies along with New York Dolls, Strawberry Alarm Clock, Iggy, old Stones, that sort. But these Atlanta-born knuckleheads do deserve some sort of designation of "such-and-so for the texting generation" — I mean, they make out with each other on stage (they're all boys!), barf and take whizzes on the audience, and that's worth something, because no generation has ever needed a barfing/whizzing-on more than this one. Maybe it'll make 'em mad, you know, and put down the Tamagotchis, get two-foot Mohawks and get to scaring off all those Sarah Palin church-geek straights once and for all. So here, how's this, they're hereby dubbed the Banana Splits of the 20-teens, you know, Fleegle, Drooper, Bingo and the other one. The songs are great this time, too, whether they're combining the Dropkick Murphys with the Dolls ("Family Tree") or summoning via Ouija board the Animals ("Noc-A-Homa") and/or the first Ramones LPs (many places). **A** —Eric W. Saeger

Smoke Fairies, *Through Low Light and Trees*
Year Seven Records, June 14



You probably don't remember, but I talked about this British chick-folk duo a while back, when their slovenly EP

compilation came in. What a mess it was, a couple of dark goth-looking inserts shoved into a cheap slipcase with the CD and little explanation, but I liked it a lot. There was a definite weird-beard trip afoot, and being we're real suckers for smoky fairies and quasi-vampirism and goth-whatnot down at the Saegerwood mansion, I figured I'd mention it to you guys back then, fully knowing there was no record store within 20 miles of here that'd have it, but meanwhile you already had your mind made up about Usher or whatever other nonsense was breaking at the time, so why not talk about a 100-to-1 shot. Cut to now, with Jack White having done what he promised, gotten these girls a deal, and so he's gone. Gone also is the fuzzy rawness, inspired by all that Dead Weather and chick-rocker-in-Beetlejuice-lace stuff, and what you're left with is a couple of girl folkies evoking Loreena McKennitt evoking Joan Baez, ergo much of the original charm has been replaced by breasty-voiced prostration in the face of new producer Head, who did some PJ Harvey. A couple of cool jams (like "Dragon," which takes some classical cues), but other than that it's ren-faire mac-and-cheese. **B-** —EWS

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Playlist

A seriously abridged
compendium of recent
and future CD releases



• **Owl City** is the MySpace-foisted one-man project from Adam Young that gave your planet the emo-techno classic "Fireflies," a famous song whose followup single "Hello Seattle" fizzled when people realized that Young's contrived dweeb-voice may be the most annoying thing ever heard by human ears. Owl City's third album, *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, comes out Tuesday, led off by pretty but dweeb-voiced single "Alligator Sky," which, with the "help" of Shawn Christopher's corporate-scum rapping, sounds like Linkin Park for utter, utter emo nerds.

• 65 million years ago there was a decade called "The Eighties," and **Blondie** was one of the reasons that decade became extinct, because they were all too happy to stop playing "punk rock" at CBGBs and start making happy pop tunes for Reagan-worshipping yuppies, all because of corporate money. Their first album since 2003 (which is probably shocking news to you also, that they didn't just quit after "Rapture"), called *Panic of Girls*, will be out Tuesday and features the lead single "Mother," an oldschool '80s-pop song that has tons of youthful zombies in its video, because that's the only way they could get a bunch of 20-year-olds to appear in a Blondie video, by letting them be zombies. For no reason whatsoever.

• In other 65-million-years-ago news, *Total: from Joy Division to New Order* comes out next week, a singles-slanted retrospective of songs from **New Order** and **Joy Division**. Yes, every once in a while, young people hear old people argue about how New Order is a disco-music blight on the legacy of Joy Division, just like people used to argue about how Benny Goodman was a dangerous avant garde artist. Young people should pay no attention to these arguments and should instead start saving up verbal ammunition, so they can score debate points in future arguments about which rapper had the scariest police record.

• Awesome jazz legend **Sonny Rollins** will finally have sax on Super Audio CD! That is, his saxophone will be on an SACD, when the SACD version of *Sonny Rollins On Impulse* comes out next week. Advances in "audiophile" technology, like SACD, are so important, aren't they? Why, did you know that in 2007, the Audio Engineering Society published the results of a year-long trial in which a wide range of people, including pro engineers, were asked to discern the difference between SACD and regular CD audio, and out of 554 trials, there were 276 correct answers, a 49.8-percent success rate corresponding almost exactly to the 50 percent that would have been achieved by chance guessing alone? "You bought the wrong CD, silly head!" —Eric W. Saeger

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POP CULTURE: BOOKS

The pre-beach read

Books to get you started on summer

By Lisa Parsons
lparsons@hippopress.com

It's not officially summer yet, but we're getting there. For now, here are some pre-beach reads: new books, light books, books that feel like adventure or vacation. Books that remind you that reading is fun and not hard.

The sidewalk café read

I thought I asked the library for *Alphabet Juice: Or, the Joy of Text*, by Roy Blount Jr., who's coming to Concord this summer on tour with it. Turns out I was mistakenly requesting his previous book, *Alphabet Juice*, which is from 2008 and is just now arriving at the library. God knows when they'll get the new one, which came out in May. But I'm delighted with *Alphabet Juice* and the new one is reputed to be more of the same — brief essays on topics relating to word usage and meaning — so I recommend either one. You'll be reading excerpts to your artsy friends over cappuccinos, like this, from the entry titled “hmmmm”: “Many English words are similar to *hmmmm*: *hum, ham, him, hymn, hem, ahem, helm, homonym, honeymoon, hum, hump, hymen, home, humble, humor, humus, human*. ... Swift's *Houyhnhnms*. And how about *whom*? And *humuhumunukunua-puaa* (a trigger fish with a snout like a pig's). And *humph*. On a desert island with someone, you could probably get by with just those, and plenty of winks and inflections.” It's a wonderful book for anyone who likes to, I don't know, read. You will find delight and laughs in Blount's commentary on people's ways with words

The backyard hammock read

If the front of the book didn't say so, you'd never know that *Horton Halfpott, or, The Fiendish Mystery of Smugwick Manor, or, The Loosening of M'Lady Luggertuck's Corset*, by Tom Angleberger, is from the guy who wrote *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* (which, by the way, has a sequel coming out in August). Both are kids' novels. *Horton Halfpott* is a classic Victorian novel — no, wait, it's not. It's what happens when the guy who wrote *The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* writes a classic Victorian novel for kids. It suffers from more telling than show-

ing, and a lack of scene-setting, but the fun with words and manners is good. And the central conceit, that a loosening of the matriarch's corset leads to a general loosening around the manor, is clever. I give you the opening line: “There are so many exciting things in this book — a Stolen Diamond, snooping stable boys, a famous detective, the disappearance of a Valuable Wig, love, pickle éclairs, unbridled Evil, and the Black Deeds of the Shipless Pirates — that it really does seem a shame to begin with ladies' underwear.” My only real complaint is that Angleberger spreads his ideas a little thin. I say give us a whole book of pickle éclairs, and another on snooping stable boys, or bigger chapters anyway. But this is a nice diverting little read, with capers and romance and the hardscrabble underdog winning the day.

The tropical sand read

Beauty Queens, by Libba Bray, is *Glee* meets *Survivor* plus Miss America. A plane full of teen beauty pageant contestants crashes on a remote island, and Miss Texas elects herself leader of the survivors, 'cause that kind of take-charge gal. Miss New Hampshire, Adina Greenberg, is sort of the Daria of the story. (Miss Nebraska: “Oh. I didn't know they had any Jewish people in New Hampshire. You should make that one of your Fun Facts About Me!”) Why is Adina even in a pageant? To expose it from within. Also because it provides a diversity of characters and a foil for the ones who are sincerely superficial; so sue the author. That's also why there's a butch lesbian from Detroit. As for the others, there is a fine line between clueless and gutsy — Miss New Mexico never complains about the airline tray embedded in her head. The pageant's role model is Ladybird Hope, “bikini-clad meteorologist, small-town talk show host, lobbyist, mayor, and Corporation businesswoman with her own clothing line.” But Ladybird is secretly conspiring with a loopy dictator to sell him arms in a weird setup by which she hopes to win the presidency. It's fast-moving and zingy and all you-got-your-politics-in-my-infotainment and it features a kickass Miss New Hampshire. Break out the coconut-scented tanning lotion and the Doritos and commence reading.

BOOK & LECTURE LISTINGS

Author events

• **THE NATURE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE** authors Dan Speduto & Ben Kimball and NH Natural Resource Bureau's Don Kent will visit Gibson's Bookstore on Thurs., June 9, at 7 p.m.
• **CRASH BARRY** will talk about his debut novel, *Sex, Drugs and Blueberries*, on Fri., June 10, at 8 p.m. at Poetry Corner, hosted by D. A. Boucher, at the UU Church Chapel at 58 Lowell St., Nashua. \$3 donation suggested. See crashbarry.com.
• **LOCAL AUTHORS SERIES** at Manchester City Library begins with Tom Jarvis, author of a suspense novel, *Train of Consequences*, on Sat., June 11, at 1 p.m. All events are free and open to the

public.

• **WRITERS ON A NEW ENGLAND STAGE** presents authors interviewed on stage by a New Hampshire Public Radio host at The Music Hall in Portsmouth. Ann Patchett on Fri., June 10. David McCullough on Thurs., June 23. Ben Mezrich on Thurs., July 21. Tickets cost \$13 per event. Buy in person at 28 Chestnut St., by phone at 433-3100 or at www.themusicall.org.
• **SUMMER READING KICK-OFF** on Thurs., June 16, at 6 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore, with appearances by Erin Moulton (*Flutter*), Jennifer Sattler (*The Pig Kahuna*) and Brian Lies (*Bats at the Beach*).

Poetry

• **MARK DECARTERET** launches his new collection, *Flap*,

on Wed., June 15, at 7 p.m. at Water Street Bookstore in Exeter. Decarteret earned an M.A. from UNH in 1993 and served as Portsmouth's poet laureate from 2009 to 2011. Free and open to the public.
• **HYLA BROOK READING SERIES** is held at the BeanTowne Coffee House & Café at 201 Route 111 in Hampstead (beantownecoffee.com) in winter, and at Robert Frost Farm at 122 Rockingham Road in Derry in the spring and summer (<http://robertfrostfarm.org>). Free and open to the public. An open mike follows the readings. For info, e-mail Robert Crawford at bobik9@aol.com. Scheduled poet is Jack McCarthy on June 16.

Writers' groups

• **AUTHOR SCHOOL: HOW TO MARKET YOUR BOOK**

POP CULTURE:

BOOKS

day-long seminar will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sat., June 18, at the Nackey Loeb School of Communication in Manchester. This workshop is designed for published authors and authors who expect to be marketing their book in the near future. Instructors will include on-air personality Mike Morin, publisher-publicist Linda Chestney, publisher Sid Hall of Hobbleshush Books, well-known New Hampshire author Rebecca Rule, social media expert John

Hermann, and Deb Baker, events coordinator for Gibson's Bookstore. Cost is \$200. Visit www.nhwritersproject.org to register.

Other

• **\$5-A-BAG BOOK SALE** on Sat., June 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Manchester City Library.

• **FREE JAZZ CONCERT** by the Crazy Eights, a jazz quintet made up of members of the Alvirne High School Jazz Band,

on Sat., June 11, at 12:30 p.m. at Rodgers Memorial Library. This is part of the library's second anniversary celebration, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• **BOOK SALE** at Rodgers Memorial Library on Sun., June 12, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lower level of the Hills Memorial Library building at 18 Library St. Free early bird admittance at 10 a.m. granted to paid members of Friends of the Library.

The Book Report

• **Get ready for summer hours:** Concord Public Library has announced that its summer hours for July and August will be as follows: closed Sunday; open Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Many area libraries alter their hours for the summer, so check yours for changes.

• **Tickets on sale for National Poetry Slam:** The 22nd annual National Poetry Slam will be held from Aug. 9 through Aug. 13 in Boston and Cambridge, Mass., and tickets are now available to the public. An all-access pass costs \$75 and grants admission to all official events; a student all-access pass costs \$60, is available for ages under 21, and grants admission to daytime events plus two preliminary shows each weeknight and team finals; a tournament pass costs \$50 and grants admission to all 12 evening competi-

tions. A record number of teams is expected at this year's Slam. Go to <http://poetryslam.com> and <http://nps2011.com> for tickets and info. New Hampshire will be represented by the Slam Free or Die team, chosen via regular slams in Manchester. There will be several side events at the NPS, including a youth slam, daily workshops, haiku contests, and a nerd slam.

• **Language center releases books, targets libraries:** All Learners Language and Culture Center, 15 Constitution Drive in Bedford, is now publishing its own line of books and workbooks, according to an e-mail from owner and lead instructor Lindsay Mitchell. All Learners teaches foreign languages to children and adults and is releasing two books, *Hola Pedro* and *Bonjour Pierre*. Mitchell is working to launch an initiative to help start a foreign language section in every public library in New Hampshire, or supplement existing ones. Visit www.all-learners.com. — *Lisa Parsons*

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FILM REVIEWS BY AMY DIAZ



Super 8

Super 8 (PG-13) A group of kids shooting a zombie movie find themselves in the middle of mystery in their small town in *Super 8*, an enchanting love letter to movie magic.

For the kids in a small Ohio town in the late 1970s, the path to movie-making is not through YouTube but a film festival full of movies made on home cameras with super 8 mm film. Middle-schooler Charles (Riley Griffiths) is writing and directing a zombie film with help from his friends Cary (Ryan Lee), whose skills

include blowing things up, Preston (Zach Mills), Martin (Gabriel Basso) and perhaps Charles' best friend Joe Lamb (Joel Courtney). Joe, who likes to build models of trains and other vehicles, is an expert at monster make-up. He's a quiet kid, particularly since his mother died months earlier in a factory accident. Now it's just Joe and his dad, a sheriff's deputy, Jackson Lamb (Kyle Chandler), who seems unsure how to proceed now that his wife is gone.

Joe, Charles and company sneak out of their homes one night to shoot a midnight scene at the local train depot. Joining them is Alice (Elle Fanning), a girl who has her own

difficult relationship with her father (Ron Eldard). She's going to play a love interest to help add story, Charles tells the boys authoritatively. Also, she took her dad's car to help them haul equipment out to the site.

At first, the shoot goes well. An approaching train even offers the promise of what Charles keeps calling "production value" — so the camera is running as the train passes and then as it crashes, derailing spectacularly and scattering the kids across the field as they run from exploding cars and flying metal. After the crash, a disturbing find has the kids scampering for the car and racing back toward town, agreeing with each other to never tell anyone they were at the accident. The next day, the military shows up to take care of the clean-up, reassuring a not-convinced Deputy Lamb that everything is fine and nothing dangerous was in the train containers. But then all the town's dogs disappear. Then people start to disappear. And then the power starts to flicker. And then more military officials show up.

As the strangeness continues, the kids worry about what they saw that night and how in-trouble they'll be if anybody finds out about their being there. But they also use the military personnel and the crash site as

"production value" and their movie begins to morph to fit the situation in their town.

And of course the bit of dramatic irony is that this movie, *Super 8*, is exactly the kind of classic sci-fi Cold War paranoia movie that the movie the boys are making. (There is a great scene where townsfolk suggest that the Soviets have something to do with everything that's happened.) And nostalgia for this kind of movie, as well as nostalgia for *E.T.*-style 1980s blockbusters, is in part what fuels this movie. The movie plays a bit with this while also riffing off it — not parodying it exactly, but having some fun with the form. For this reason, the movie seems as much about movies as it is about the kind of sci-fi mystery that is the focus of the plot.

And who better to pull this kind of sleight of hand than this movie's writer/director J.J. Abrams? And who better to join him in it than Steven Spielberg, who has a producer credit here? It's not just his presence that made me think of *E.T.*, it's also the movie's atmospherics — the late 1970s music and clothes, the kids with parent issues, the sense that kids had their own adventures that adults weren't privy to. And then there's the sentiment, which I think the movie balances very well with the action

and the mystery, much in the spirit of, say, *The Goonies* (which this film also reminded me of). We feel for these characters as much as we root for them.

And the solidness of the cast helps to back up the solidness of the story. These kids are pretty uniformly great. They are kid-like — one always pukes when there's trouble, there's a fair amount of friendly name-calling — and refreshingly not hammy or overly precocious (I'm talking to you, every kid on every sitcom on Disney). The adults are good too — we get layers from Kyle Chandler's performance but not so much act-y acting that it slows down the story.

Depending on your own kid's age (I'm thinking about 9 or 10 and up) and threshold for scary stuff, I think this is one of those rare movies that the whole family can enjoy. It doesn't pander (OK, maybe a little to us early Spielberg fans) or talk down to any sector of the audience, and the movie genuinely charms as it pulls you in. **A**

Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of sci-fi action and violence, language and some drug use. Written and directed by J.J. Abrams, Super 8 is an hour and 51 minutes long and is distributed in wide release by Paramount Pictures. It opens on Friday, June 10.

Reviewlets: Snack-sized movie reviews

* Indicates a movie worth seeking out. Previously reviewed movies have grades. For full reviews of most movies here or movies previously released, go to www.hippopress.com.

***Bridesmaids (R)**
Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph. Wiig-written, Judd Apatow-produced, Paul Fieg-directed totally awesome lady comedy. Or, if the words "bridesmaids" and "lady" are scaring you away: hilarious people are in hilarious situations with swearing and poop. **B+**

***Cave of Forgotten Dreams (G)**
Werner Herzog. The idiosyncratic director gives us this documentary about the Chauvet Cave in France, which contains cave paintings some 30,000 years old. The loveliness of the images — particularly in 3-D — is what makes this movie special. **B+**

The Company Men (R)
Ben Affleck, Kevin Costner. A group of heretofore comfortably upper-middle-class

men deal with losing their jobs in the tough economic climate. **B**

***The Conspirator (PG-13)**
Robin Wright, James McAvoy. Robert Redford directs this solid courtroom drama about Mary Surratt, a woman charged as a member of the conspiracy behind the Lincoln assassination. **B**

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules (PG)
Zachary Gordon, Steve Zahn. The further adventures of Greg Heffley, this time with emphasis on his older brother Rodrick. **C+**

Everything Must Go (R)
Will Ferrell, Michael Pena. An alcoholic relapses and loses his wife and job. But it's funny! Well, not laugh-out-loud funny but Ferrell does give a great tragedy-as-comedy performance as one very lost middle-aged man. **B**

***Fast Five (PG-13)**
Vin Diesel, Paul Walker. Fastest and Furiousest — in Rio! **B**

Gnomeo & Juliet (G)
Voices of Emily Blunt, Maggie Smith. Shakespeare's classic love story is told with garden gnomes. **C-**

The Hangover Part II (R)
Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms. But really, you're in it for the Zach Galifianakas and the Ken Jeong. The guys from the wild Vegas trip regroup and head to Bangkok in this sequel. **C**

Hoodwinked Too! Hood vs. Evil (PG)
Voices of Bill Hader, Hayden Panettiere. Red Riding Hood helps to investigate the disappearance of Hansel and Gretel. **D**

I Am Number Four (PG-13)
Timothy Olyphant, Alex Pettyfer. Seeking *Twilight*-like status, this teen sci-fi features a boy with powers who is being hunted. **D**

***Insidious (PG-13)**
Rose Byrne, Patrick Wilson. A family is haunted by all manner of spirit and demon in this strange but kind of

awesome horror movie. **B+**

Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG)
Voices of Jack Black, Dustin Hoffman. This second outing is less gleeful but still moderately entertaining. This time kung fu warrior Po must defeat an evil peacock. **B-**

Limitless (PG-13)
Bradley Cooper, Robert De Niro. A superdrug allows a struggling writer to become a brilliant successful investor, as long as he keeps taking the potentially dangerous drug. **C**

Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13)
Johnny Depp, Penelope Cruz. Yes, again. **C**

Priest (PG-13)
Paul Bettany, Maggie Q. A warrior priest fights vampires in this movie that is significantly less badass than it should be. **C-**

Rango (PG)
Voices of Johnny Depp and Abigail Breslin. Remember those commer-

cials for the animated movie with the lizard during the Super Bowl? This is that movie — a Western featuring the voice of Johnny Depp as Rango, a pet chameleon who suddenly finds himself in the wild. **C**

Rio (G)
Voices of Jesse Eisenberg, Anne Hathaway. A cage-raised bird takes a trip to the wilds of Brazil. **B-**

Scream 4 (R)
Neve Campbell, Courteney Cox. Sydney returns to Woodsboro and a whole new generation of teenagers (including Emma Roberts and Hayden Panettiere) meet deaths, complete with pop culture references. **C+**

Something Borrowed (PG-13)
Ginnifer Goodwin, Kate Hudson. Oh, look, they're putting Kate Hudson in rom-coms again. **F**

Source Code (PG-13)
Jake Gyllenhaal, Michelle

Monaghan. A man is sent back to the scene of a disaster minutes before it happens, over and over, until he can stop it. **C**

Thor (PG-13)
Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman. Marvel Comics brings its Thor to the big screen in this first big movie of the "summer" directed by Kenneth Branagh — wait, what? Yes, Kenneth Branagh. **C+**

Water for Elephants (PG-13)
Robert Pattinson, Reese Witherspoon. Not a vampire movie! Pattinson plays a college dropout who joins the circus in Depression-era America in this movie based on the book that apparently doesn't have a lot of fans in Bedford. **C**

***Win Win (R)**
Paul Giamatti, Amy Ryan. A lawyer/wrestling coach finds himself caring for an old man and the man's 16-year-old grandson in this smart, funny and wee-bit dark character study. **B+**



X-Men: First Class

X-Men: First Class (PG-13)
Professor X meets Magneto
in X-Men: First Class, a smart,
action-packed, big fun prequel to
the previously rather tired X-Men
franchise.

This movie starts very much as the first *X-Men* movie did, with a young Erik Lehnsherr (Bill Milner) being separated from his parents at a Nazi concentration camp in Poland. His rage and fear cause him to bend, telekinetically, the metal gate separating him from them. This time we see that a sinister-looking doctor is watching the scene from a window. Dr. Schmidt (Kevin Bacon) later tries to get Erik to repeat the performance by moving a coin, and as incentive he brings in Erik's mother. As you might suspect, things don't go well for her, but Schmidt is able to unleash Erik's remarkable powers.

Elsewhere at about the same time, a young telepathic Charles Xavier (Laurence Belcher) awakens from sleep, sensing an intruder in his family's massive English estate. He knows when he sees a woman claiming to be his mother in the kitchen that it's someone else, and this is how he meets the blue-skinned, red-haired Raven (Morgan Lily), a shape-shifter. So delighted is Charles to meet someone else different like him that he adopts Raven as a sort of sister. Years later in the early 1960s, when a grown Charles (James McAvory) is studying genetic mutation at Oxford, Raven (Jennifer Lawrence) lives with him — waitressing and growing bored watching Charles hit on co-eds using his abilities to order their favorite drinks and sweet talk them.

This is more or less the state in which CIA Agent Moira MacTaggart finds Charles when she comes looking for a mutation expert. Staking out officials in the U.S. military and a shifty character named Sebastian Shaw, as Schmidt now calls himself, Moira is expecting to find evidence of spying for the Soviets. What she sees instead are mutants — Emma Frost (January Jones), a woman who can cover herself in diamonds and read minds; Azazel (Jason Fleming), a red-skinned man with the ability to vanish and reappear elsewhere, and Riptide (Alex Gonzalez), a man who can create tornados in his hands. To convince her bosses that such beings are possible and are working, so she thinks, for the Soviets, she brings in Charles. But it's Raven and her quick morphing that convinces the powers that be of what mutants can do. Though most of the CIA agents view them with fear, one of them (Oliver Platt) is convinced that their powers could be used for good, which is how Charles winds up on a U.S. Navy ship attempting to intercept a yacht carrying Shaw on the same night that a badass,

Nazi-killing, vengeance-seeking Erik (Michael Fassbender) shows up to try to kill Shaw.

It is complicated friendship at first sight.

As it turns out, Shaw is poking around in both the U.S. and Soviet military establishments and planning something dastardly. Since Erik and Charles have overlapping goals (Charles: stop Shaw; Erik: kill Shaw), they decide to work together — to hunt down Shaw and to find other mutants who might want to join them. Thus we meet government scientist Hank McCoy (Nicholas Hoult), who is supersmart and has ape-like feet; the changeable Darwin (Edi Gathegi); the butterfly-type-wings-having Angel (Zoe Kravitz); the energy-slinging Havok (Lucas Till), and the sound-manipulating Banshee (Caleb Landry Jones).

These scenes of Erik and Charles finding Angel at a strip club or meeting Darwin in a cab are charming. There's a sense of bubbly fun — like some mod-era caper movie. At other times, we feel like we're watching some hyper-charged James Bond movie — January Jones is particularly good at being an emotion-free icy villain assistant. Eventually, Shaw's plan comes to a head during the Cuban missile crisis, complete with archival speeches and news footage. It could have been absurd but it all fits together nicely — seamlessly even. At over two hours, the movie never feels slow or draggy. You get your rich plot, your fun cameos, your moments of “hey, that's how that X-Men guy got that thing” and your big action scenes too. There are two big set-piece battles and even though they are heavy on special effects, the scenes work and are as much about the characters and the tension and excitement of the moment as they are about making us believe that a girl can spit fireballs or a guy can bend metal.

And for all that the movie is a big wham-pow action extravaganza at times, it's the relationships that take it to another level (one, for example, many many notches above *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*) — particularly the relationship between Erik and Charles and the relationship that Raven, who gives herself the name Mystique, has with her mutant-ness. In the latter, we get a good sense of how her character becomes the Mystique of the later movies and a nice consideration of the struggle between accepting yourself and fitting in.

The Erik and Charles relationship is truly the movie's central delight. In previous *X-Men* movies, we've seen hints of life-long friendship and how the men's shared desire to keep mutants safe has manifested in two different ways. Charles, here played as an almost buoyantly happy man excited about the prospect of a world in which mutants will be accepted, urges peaceful coexistence with humans and tries to help Erik find peace within himself. Erik, however, sees humans as a threat — more roundups

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POP CULTURE:

FILM Continued



Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer

of those who are different, more concentration camps. MacAvoy makes Charles an optimist, one who cares deeply about the soul of his pessimistic friend. Fassbender gives Erik real depth — anger but also hurt and the capacity for love. The scenes with these two men are electric and leave you cheering for both of them, even when they're on opposite sides.

X-Men: First Class is above all entertaining — deeply, satisfyingly entertaining. It is well-crafted, well-performed example of what can be great about superhero movies. **A-**

Rated PG-13 for brief strong language, some sexuality and a violent image. Directed by Matthew Vaughn and written by Ashley Edward Miller, Zack Stentz, Jane Goldman, Matthew Vaughn, Sheldon Turner and Bryan Singer; X-Men: First Class is two hours and 11 minutes long and is distributed in wide release by Fox.

Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer (PG)

A third-grader tries to have the most fantasticalerrific summer vacation ever in Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer, a movie based on the books of Megan McDonald.

There are, according to Wikipedia, about 10 Judy Moody books and another five or so that focus on her little brother Stink. Though I've not read the books, I get a sense from the movie that this is Ramona Quimby territory — imaginative kids, having adventures and frequently getting in trouble and/or making a mess.

Judy Moody (Jordana Beatty) is a bubbly, excitable third-grader whose hair is never quite combed and who, when the film opens, is having an animated (one-way) discussion with her cat about her plans for the summer. She intends to get her three friends — Rocky (Garrett Ryan), Amy (Taylor Hender) and Frank (Preston Bailey) — to join her in a summer of 100 thrills, involving dares and amazing feats (like riding a local roller coaster or surfing a wave). But she soon finds out that Rocky is bound for circus camp and Amy is heading to Borneo with her mother. They'll be having amazing adventures but Judy will be left at home with only Frank and her little brother Stink (Parris Mosteller). Worse — she won't even be making an annual visit to her grandmother's house. Instead, her parents have to leave to care for a sick relative and Judy and Stink will be left with her Aunt Opal (Heather Graham), whom she hasn't seen since she was little.

This last part turns out not to be as bad as Judy fears. Aunt Opal, a world traveler, calls herself a guerilla artist and is always up for

bedazzling a garbage can lid to make a crazy hat or making a giant Bigfoot statue on the lawn (Stink is determined to catch Bigfoot this summer). Judy might just be able to have an adventure or two after all.

Been to any children's birthday parties lately? If so, you can probably remember how, at some point during the party (usually somewhere between 6 and 15 minutes in), you start to get a headache, feel a kind of weariness that seeps into your bones and get a strong desire for nothing in the world so much as some ibuprofen and a cool gin and tonic. I felt that same sense — that everything is too loud and that, even though this is a movie, I had just got cake frosting in my hair — about 10 minutes into this movie. There are all these close-ups, lots of cheering and big hammy “the sun'll come out” acting by the kids. It is, in a way that even Michael Bay at his most bombastic can't achieve, very loud in this movie. Why so much muchness, I thought. That and, hey, is that Urkel? (Yep, Jaleel White cameo.)

Of course the target audience for this movie won't know who Urkel was. They probably won't think it's loud or be bothered by the hamminess either. I can see how the stories here would be fun for the right kid — someone, maybe five or six years old through about 10 or so. In fact, the movie actually made me suspect the books were probably great rollicking things. That doesn't always translate well onto the big screen. The recent *Ramona and Beezus* was kind of limp and lukewarm compared to how adventure-packed I remember those books being as a kid. For kids who love Judy Moody books, it may be enough just to see some of their favorite characters on screen.

As someone who has no familiarity with the books, however, I wasn't entertained. I felt the two *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* movies were pretty narrowly focused at their age group and little beyond that, but even those movies offer humor and sweetness that gives some texture for the adults that drove that core audience to the theater. *Judy Moody* on the other hand felt both too big with all its wacky loudness and too slight with its very minimal story. For parents of book fans, I suggest you take the Advil now and have the drink waiting for you when you get home. For everybody else, *Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer* is a zany playland you can just keep walking past. **C**

Rated PG for mild rude humor and language. Directed by John Schultz and written by Kathy Waugh and Megan McDonald (from the books by Megan McDonald), Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer is an hour and 31 minutes long and is distributed in wide release by Relativity Media. It opens on Friday, June 10.

Cinema locator

AMC Tyngsborough 440 Middlesex St., Tyngsborough, Mass., 978-649-3980. Chunky's Cinema & Pub Nashua 151 Coliseum Ave., chunkys.com Chunky's Pelham Cinema & Pub 150 Bridge St., Pelham, 635-7499 Cinemagic Hooksett 1226 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 644-4629, cinemagicmovies.com	Cinemagic Merrimack 12 11 Executive Place Dr., Merrimack, 423-0240, cinemagicmovies.com Flagship Cinemas Derry 10 Ashleigh Dr., Derry, 437-8800 AMC at The Loop 90 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen, Mass., 978-738-8942 O'Neil Cinema 12 Apple Tree Mall, Londonderry, 434-8633	Regal Concord 282 Loudon Road, Concord, 226-3800 Regal Hooksett 8 100 Technology Dr., Hooksett, 641-3456 Showcase Cinemas Lowell 32 Reiss Ave., Lowell, Mass., 978-551-0055
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Movies outside the cineplex

RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, www.redrivertheatres.org

- **The Conspirator** (PG-13, 2011) Thurs., June 9, at 8 p.m.
- **The Double Hour** (NR, 2009) Thurs., June 9, at 2:10, 5:45 & 7:40 p.m.
- **Of Gods and Men** (R, 2011) Thurs., June 9, at 2 & 5:25 p.m.
- **Everything Must Go** (R, 2011) Thurs., June 9, at 2:05, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.; Fri., June 10, through Sun., June 12, at 3:15 & 8:15 p.m.; Mon, June 13, at 8 p.m.; Tues., June 14, at 5:25 p.m.; Thurs., June 16, at 8 p.m.
- **Midnight in Paris** (PG-13, 2011) Fri., June 10, and Sat., June 11, at 12:30, 3:45, 5, 7:15 & 9:30 p.m.; Sun., June 12, at 12:30, 2:45, 5 & 7:15 p.m.; Mon., June 13, thru Thurs., June 16, at 2, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.
- **In A Better World** (R, 2010) Fri., June 10, through Sun., June 12, at 12:35 and 5:35 p.m.; Mon., June 13, at 2:05 & 5:25; Tues., June 14, at 2:05 p.m.; Wed., June 15, at 2:05 p.m.; Thurs., June 16, at 2:05 and 5:25 p.m.
- **My Perestroika** (2010) Fri., June 10, at 2:10 and 7:30 p.m.; Sat., June 11, thorough Mon., June 13, at 2:10, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.
- **Green Fire** (2011) Wed., June 15, at 7 p.m.; Thurs., June 16, at 7 p.m.

WILTON TOWN HALL

Main Street in Wilton, wiltontownhalltheatre.com, 654-FILM.

- **Water for Elephants** (PG-13, 2010) Thurs., June 9, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Source Code** (PG-13, 2011) Thurs., June 9, at 7:30 p.m.
- **The Matrimaniac** (1916) starring Douglas Fairbanks and **Her Sister from Paris** (1925) starring Constance Talmadge on Sun., June 26, at 4:30 p.m. Silent film with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis.

MILFORD DRIVE-IN

Route 101A in Milford, 673-4090, www.milforddrivein.com. Open

Friday and Saturday; drive-in opens at 6:15 p.m.; movies begin at dusk. Admission is \$20 per car (up to 6 occupants).

- **Screen 1: X-Men: First Class** (PG-13, 2011); **The Hangover Part II** (R, 2011)
- **Screen 2: Kung Fu Panda 2** (PG, 2011), **Super 8** (PG-13, 2011)

FRANCO-AMERICAN CENTRE

Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, www.francoamericancentrenh.com

- **Eldorado** (2008) Tues., June 21, at 7 p.m. and Wed., June 22, as well as other movies.

THE JAM FACTORY

1211 Elm St., Manchester, www.thejamfactorynh.com

- **Local indie films** the last Saturday of each month from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Event is 21+; suggested donation of \$5.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, www.manchester.lib.nh.us

- **The Social Network** (PG-13, 2010) Tues., June 14, at 6 p.m. and Wed., June 15, at 1 p.m.
- **Tommy** (PG, 1975) Wed., June 22, at 1 p.m.

WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, www.manchester.lib.nh.us

- **True Grit** (PG-13, 2010) Fri., June 10, at 3 p.m.
- **Red Riding Hood** (PG-13, 2011) Fri., June 17, at 3 p.m.

THE MUSIC HALL

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, www.themusichall.org. Some of these films are being screened at Music Hall Loft, at 131 Congress St. See website for details.

- **The Company Men** (R, 2011)

Thurs., June 9, and Sat., June 11, at 7:30 p.m.

- **Bill Cunningham New York** (NR, 2011) Sun., June 12, and Tues., June 14, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Adjustment Bureau** (PG-13, 2011) Wed., June 15, at 7:30 p.m.
- **In a Better World** (R, 2010) Thurs., June 16, and Fri., June 16, at 7:30 p.m.

NEWBURYPORT SCREENING ROOM

82 State St., Newburyport, Mass., 978-462-3456, www.newburyport-movies.com

- **Of Gods and Men** (PG, 2011) through Thurs., June 16: Fridays at 6 & 8:45 p.m.; Saturdays at 3:15, 6 & 8:45 p.m.; Sundays at 4:45 & 7:30 p.m.; Mondays through Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

THE COLONIAL THEATRE

95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, www.thecolonial.org

- **The Conspirator** (PG-13, 2011) Fri., June 10, at 7 p.m.; Sat., June 11, and Sun., June 12, at 2,5 & 8 p.m.; Mon., June 13, through Thurs., June 16, at 7 p.m.

OTHER

- **48 HOUR FILM PROJECT** Local auteurs will write, shoot, edit and score a movie this Friday, June 10, through Sunday, June 12. See the results on Wed., June 15, at 6:30 & 9 p.m. at Cinemagic, 1226 Hooksett Road in Hooksett. Tickets cost \$10 per screening. See www.48hourfilm.com/newhampshire to purchase tickets and for more info.
- **SUNDAY AFTERNOON MATINEES** at the Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Audubon Way, Amherst, 668-2045, nhaudubon.org) every Sunday, 1 p.m. Watch nature videos, a different show every week. Free.

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www.wiltontownhalltheatre.com

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Starts Fri – Nominated Best Foreign Film
"OF GODS AND MEN" French
Every Evening 7:30 Sun mats 2:00-4:30

Saturday Afternoon Library Classic Film
John Wayne, Kirk Douglas, Patricia Neal
World War II Navy in the Pacific
"IN HARM'S WAY" (1965)
Sat 4:30pm – free admission – donations to charity

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Children (under 12) and Seniors (65 and over) \$4.00

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SCREEN #1 X-Men: First Class PG-13 The Hangover: Part 2 R	SCREEN #2 Kung Fu Panda 2 PG Super 8 PG-13
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Check website for details
www.milforddrivein.com



HER SISTER FROM PARIS

Ronald Colman and Constance Talmadge star in a madcap romantic comedy of mistaken identity!

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IN A BETTER WORLD (R/2010/119 min.) Fri-Sun, 12:35, 5:35, Mon, 2:05, 5:25, Tue, Wed, 2:05, Thu, 2:05, 5:25
EVERYTHING MUST GO (R/2010/97 min.) Fri-Sun, 3:15, 8:15, Mon, 8:00, Tue, 5:25, Thu, 8:00
MY PERESTROIKA (NR/2010/88 min.) Fri, 2:10, 7:30, Sat-Mon, 2:10, 5:30, 7:30
GREEN FIRE (NR/2011/74 min.) Wed (Big Hall), Thu (Screening Room), 7:00

Film descriptions & purchase tickets online at www.redrivertheatres.org

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Nite Roundup

Local music & nightlife news

By Michael Witthaus
music@hippopress.com

- **Revved up:** Northbound traffic backups on Interstate 91 and shiny motorcycles everywhere mean one thing. It's bike week in the Lakes Region, and no band seems better suited to provide the soundtrack than Jackyl, blending hard rock, heavy metal and power tools — the group's front man, Jesse James Dupree, is perhaps the only rhythm chainsaw player in the world. See Jackyl on Saturday, June 11, at 6:30 p.m. at Laconia Harley-Davidson, 239 Route 3 in Meredith. There's live music through June 19. For a full schedule, go to www.laconiaharley.com.

- **Rude boys:** Coveting thy bro's squeeze is the theme of "I Kissed Your Girlfriend," a PG-13 romp from Boston band Fighting Friday. The group has built a solid Manch Vegas following with a mix of hard rock originals and covers that run the gamut from classic rock to hip-hop, country and pop. It's not always obvious which tunes are borrowed — the highest compliment a cover band can receive. See Fighting Friday on Friday, June 10, at 9:30 p.m. at the Black Brimmer, 1087 Elm St. in Manchester. For songs and information, go to www.fightingfriday.com.

- **Blues power:** Guitarist Mike Welch's moniker "Monster" is well deserved, as he's humbled many performers with his overpowering fretwork. Welch has traded licks with everyone from James Cotton to Dan Aykroyd. He's just returned from a European tour, so seeing his Boston-based band in a blues-friendly Manchester watering hole will be a rare, intimate treat. See the Monster Mike Welch Band on Friday, June 10, at 9 p.m. at Strange Brew Tavern, 88 Market St. in Manchester, www.strangebrewtavern.net.

- **Prefab four:** The Monkees began as a '60s made-for-television band, with songs like "Pleasant Valley Sunday" supplied by the era's top writers — Carole King, Neil Diamond and others. But much to the chagrin of their NBC handlers, the group insisted on contributing to its records. Mickey Dolenz, Davey Jones and Peter Tork are now in the midst of a 45th anniversary tour. See The Monkees on Wednesday, June 15, at 8 p.m. at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St. in Lowell. Tickets cost \$39 to \$119 at www.lowellauditorium.com.

- **Rock summit:** Like a kid running away to join the circus, Leon Russell found work as a session piano player at 15, later playing on Jan & Dean's "Surf City" and joining George Harrison and Bob Dylan at The Concert for Bangla Desh. Dylan is the 20th century's pre-eminent songwriter, also known as a quirky DJ on Sirius/XM's *Theme Time Radio Hour*. Dylan and Russell appear at Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion on Aug. 19. Tickets go on sale Friday, June 10, at 10 a.m. at www.meadowbrook.net (special Facebook pre-sale on June 9).

Young guitar slingers team up

Brothers and Sisters Blues Tour stops in Laconia

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

A promoter with a unique vantage point hatched the idea for the Brothers and Sisters Blues Tour, an evening of music featuring four youthful guitarists and their bands. Steve Gates assembled the show, which plays a Bike Week set at Laconia's Naswa Resort on June 12.

"I wanted to show everyone that the blues is young and vibrant and alive," Gates said recently from his western Massachusetts home, adding that the players, Danielle Miraglia, Lydia Warren, Ryan Brooks Kelly and Jack Babineau, "all come at the blues from a different angle, but somehow they all wind up in the same place."

In her late 20s, Warren is the most seasoned of the group, having spent nearly half her life as a professional musician. At age 15 she performed on NBC's *Today*, causing a host to gush that Warren was "changing the face of the blues."

Gates enthusiastically agrees. "When Lydia Warren rips into a blues song wearing a mini dress that looks like it's out of the Sixties, ripping that guitar like Ronnie Earl and singing like Etta James, you go, 'Wow, the blues is alive,'" he says.

Miraglia earned a reputation for mixing her songwriting and acoustic blues talents in folk clubs; she recently performed in the round with Amy Petty and Jen Kearney. "The folk circuit can be very exclusive, but she was right on the edge," says Gates; Miraglia will release her first all-electric record later this year.

Gates met Babineau five years ago at Future Stars, an under-18 showcase the producer/musician runs in addition to recruiting talent for the summer *Blues and Brews Festival*, and booking shows at various New England venues. Gates spotted Babineau's talent immediately and helped steer him toward a slot opening for Devon Allman at the Bull Run in Shirley, a club he regularly books.

"He sings like a man, someone with experience who has felt the pain and joy of the

world. He's got a voice that comes like it's from somewhere else," Gates says. "When he sings a Marvin Gaye song, women from the age of 10 to 90 melt."

Babineau, now 20, fronts Don't Blame Jack, a five-piece band that straddles a blues/rock line. "We like a lot of different music, so we can fit a lot of bills," Babineau says. "I've always been a fan of Ryan, Danielle and Lydia, so when I had a chance to do this I jumped at it." He says Gates talked about the idea for over a year. "Steve is a character, he would always say to me, 'Oh, you gotta play with this Lydia Warren, she's amazing.' I would say, 'All right, Steve. If you think so, make it happen.'"

Nashua native son Ryan Brooks Kelly and his band Smokestack Lightning have impressed bar audiences across the region for the past few years, though at age 19 he's still too young to drink with any of them. Gates likens Kelly's spitfire style to that of Joe Bonamassa and others who were first inspired by Stevie Ray Vaughn's crossover blues. "Ryan comes from the ethos of those kids who came up in the Nineties," he says. "Kenny Wayne Shepherd is a very good example."

The Brothers and Sisters Tour includes 45-minute sets from each band, followed by six to eight songs from the ensemble. Interestingly, the four guitarists hadn't all met before performing together, though they all know each other by reputation and of course Gates' constant prodding. But the first show was beyond smooth, Gates recalls. "A tear rolled down my face and I said I can die good now," he says. "I did one good thing."

"It's cool, because we really just sit down with acoustic guitars and get to know each other," says Babineau. "We each have songs we want to do. I've been playing Ryan Kelly's song because it's stuck in my head, because it's so good."

The logistics of presenting four bands can be daunting. "We try to keep the backline pretty simple. Amps are pretty personal, but with



Danielle Miragli. Courtesy photo.

the drums and bass rig we're pretty flexible, so that helps a lot," he says. "But the sound guys have a panic attack."

The experience of performing with the assembled talent, adds Babineau, can be a bit awe-inspiring as well. "I feel lucky to be onstage with these musicians, but when they're on the guitars ripping, and they look at me for the solo, I just shake my head. Nope, nope — you're not gonna throw that at me."

For Gates, the effort is a labor of love. "Hopefully, this will do something for the blues scene all over New England, and do great things for the careers of all four of these marvelous people," he says. "What I want to show people with this tour is that these people are enormously talented but also very beautiful. They are what *American Idol* strives for but doesn't get."

Brothers and Sisters Blues Tour

When: Sunday, June 12, at noon

Where: NASWA Resort in Laconia

Go to www.youtube.com/user/imojoimojo and look in "Uploads" for a 21-minute highlights video of the April 15 show at the Bull Run.

A post-millennial Woody Guthrie

James McMurtry comes to Tupelo Music Hall

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Despite having a novelist father and a mother who's both a literature professor and an author, James McMurtry chose the songwriting form.

"I did more listening to songs than I did reading books, it seemed more natural to me," McMurtry explained recently via phone, en route to his home in Austin with a bag of freshly procured Texas barbecue on the seat beside him.

Storytellers like Kris Kristofferson and John Prine were big influences, "and really, I wanted to be Johnny Cash when I was a kid," says McMurtry. "His voice and his production on that early '60s stuff — a Telecaster with a pile of reverb." Bands like Crazy Horse and Little Feat also spoke to him, helping to spawn the bracing jangle running like a vein through

many of his songs.

The gulf between America's haves and have-nots is an ever-present theme for McMurtry. But from the gated neighborhoods of "Safe Side" (*Candyland*, 1992) to the meth labs and land scams in "Choctaw Bingo" (*St. Mary of the Woods*, 2002), most of his songs have laid human pain bare without laying any particular blame.

A good example is "Ruby & Carlos," from his last studio album, about the reluctant breakup of a scarred veteran and his horse trainer wife. "Most of the time, I try to ghost it in there," says McMurtry. "Carlos is a Gulf War vet, but that's just kind of slid in there at the end — I don't really say it. I like to do it that way more often."

Then came "We Can't Make It Here Anymore" in 2006, a seven-minute diatribe of American dystopia — poverty, industrial decay, offshored jobs, underemployment

and national leaders responding with a mix of casual disregard and outright contempt:

"The billionaires get to pay less tax

The working poor get to fall through the cracks

Let 'em eat jellybeans let 'em eat cake

Let 'em eat sh\$, whatever it takes

They can join the Air Force, or join the Corps

If they can't make it here anymore."

It was, says McMurtry, "my first open, direct lyrical commentary, and I had to get past my fear of the song turning into a sermon." It worked, and more than one critic named it the best song of the decade. But the laconic McMurtry doesn't express much pride over such accolades. "I got lucky; I got a good song out of it, and a lot of people identified with it, and it's unfortunate that they do identify with it. It's good for me but not good for

NITE



James McMurtry. Courtesy photo.

the country.”

“We Can’t Make It Here Anymore” was rush-released as a free acoustic download; an electric version appeared on the album *Child-ish Things*. His 2008 follow-up *Just Us Kids* contained two more broadsides, “God Bless America (pat mAcDonald must die)” and “Cheney’s Toy.”

“Those were more rants,” says McMurtry, adding that the latter song stirred up some unintended trouble. “A lot of people misinterpreted [that] I was saying the soldier was Cheney’s toy, which I wasn’t at all. I thought I put in enough references to let everybody know that it was Bush, but some people don’t read the New York Times.”

“Cheney’s Toy” came out as a single on Tax Day, and the election six months later didn’t end up changing much in McMurtry’s eyes. “I actually voted for Hillary in the Texas primary,” he says. “I thought she would have made a better president, and I still do.”

He hasn’t penned a follow-up to “We Can’t Make It Here” for the Obama age yet, but the song has been revived in concert. “He just signed to extend the PATRIOT Act; he’s Bush Lite,” says McMurtry with resignation. “I

gave him the benefit of the doubt for a while ... the bitch of it is I am going to have to vote for him anyway.”

Change won’t come without a total crash, believes McMurtry, who is fast becoming the Woody Guthrie of this Depression: “As long as people have cable TV and just enough money to put gas in their cars, they’re going to continue to maintain the status quo and vote against their interests — that’s the American way.”

McMurtry is coming to New England for a show at Londonderry’s Tupelo Music Hall, followed by a Friday night appearance at Roots on the River, a four-day gathering in Bellows Falls, Vt., that’s more often called Fred Fest, after Canadian singer, songwriter and raconteur Fred Eaglesmith. Now in its 11th year, it began as a way to lure Eaglesmith south to Vermont by offering him two consecutive performing dates. The shows were immediately successful, with a cadre of “Fredheads,” as his fans are fondly known, descending on the town.

Soon a third Sunday afternoon all-acoustic show in the 200-year-old Rockingham Meeting House was added, and a tradition was born. These days, a Thursday night headliner show at the Bellows Falls Opera House, along with free outdoor performances, helps stretch Roots on the River to its present four-day configuration.

McMurtry’s appearance will be his third visit to the festival.

James McMurtry

Thursday, June 9, at 7 p.m. at Tupelo Music Hall, 2 Young Road, Londonderry.
Friday, June 10, at 6 p.m. at the Roots on the River Festival in Bellows Falls, Vt. (www.rootsontheriver.com).

CONCERTS

Venues

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org
Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana
Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com
Leddy Center 38c Ladd’s Lane, Epping, 679-2781, leddycenter.org
Lowell Memorial Auditorium

East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com
Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavillion 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net
The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddlenh.org
The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusic-hall.org
The Old Meeting House, 1 New Boston Rd., Francestown
Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

atre.org
Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com
Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com
Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com
Verizon Wireless Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com
Whittemore Center Arena UNH 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, www.whittcenter.com

• **.38 Special** Thurs., June 9, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
• **James McMurtry** Thurs., June 9, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Styx and Yes** Thurs., June 9, at 5 p.m., Meadowbrook
• **Todd Snider** Fri., June 10, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **David Mallett** Sat., June 11, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s
• **Stayin’ Alive, One night of The Bee Gees** Fri., June 10, at 7:30 p.m., Palace
• **Farren Butcher Inc.** Sat., June 11, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Eddy “The Chief” Clearwater** Fri., June 15, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Carrie Rodriguez** Fri., June 15, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **The Monkees** Wed., June 15,

at 8 p.m., Lowell Auditorium
• **The Tedeschi Trucks Band** Sat., June 16, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
• **Ilo Ferreira** Sat., June 16, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s
• **Black Country Communion** Fri., June 17, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
• **Justin Lantrip** Fri., June 17, at 10 p.m., Boynton’s
• **Michael Buble** Fri., June 17, at 8 p.m., Verizon Wireless Arena
• **Black Country Communion** Fri., June 17, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
• **Jimmy Vaughn** Fri., June 17, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Granite State Blues Society Challenge** Sat., June 18, at 8

p.m., Tupelo
• **Chris Isaak** Sat., June 18, at 7:30 p.m., Lowell Boarding House Park
• **Sully Erna** Sat., June 18, at 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
• **Dueling pianos** Sat., June 18, at 8 p.m., Boynton’s
• **The Robert Cray Band and Ronnie Earl and the Broadcasters** Wed., June 22, at 7 p.m., Cap Center
• **Greg Brown** Thurs., June 23, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Tom Rush** Thurs., June 23, at 7 p.m., Prescott Park
• **Indigo Girls** Thurs., June 23, at 7:30 p.m., Lowell Boarding House Park

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FRIDAY JUNE 10TH

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SATURDAY JUNE 11TH

TIGERLILY NO COVER BEFORE 9

TUESDAY JUNE 14TH

DJ DREW NO COVER

WEDNESDAY JUNE 15TH

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NITE

Nightlife listings Music, comedy & parties

• **JT WILDMAN CD RELEASE SHOW** will be held at the Eagle Square Atrium in Concord on Sat., June 11, from 7 to 11 p.m. Donations will be accepted at the door. Email wildhov@comcast.net.

• **REAGANTA** will perform at the Old Meetinghouse of Francestown, One New Boston Road, Francestown, 547-3035, on Sat., June 18, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 at the Francestown Village Store or by calling 588-3837. Visit www.reaganta.com or www.francestown-meetinghouse.com.

Free outdoor concerts

• **CANTERBURY COMMUNITY FARMERS MARKET** Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki will perform on Wed., June 15. Grassdawgs will perform on Wed., June 22, Wed., July 27 and Wed., Sept. 28. Geddes Road Band will perform on Wed., June 29 and Wed., Aug. 10. Seth Murley will perform on Wed., July 6 and Wed., Aug. 17. Reaganta will perform on Wed., July 13. Tim Gurshin will perform on Wed., July 20 and Wed., Sept. 21 and The Allman Sisters will perform on Wed., Aug. 24 and Wed., Sept. 7. All shows will be held in the parking lot on the north side of the Elkins Public Library on Center Road, from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

• **CONCORD MUSIC SERIES** in Eagle Square including 1960s invasion music on Thurs., June 23, at 7 p.m.

• **DEERFIELD FARMERS' MARKET SHOWS** Ruth Scuton's Travelin' Barnyard and Interpid will perform on Fri., June 10, Mike O'Donnell on Fri., June 17 and Scott Forrest on Fri., June 24. All shows will be held in the Arts & Crafts Building on the Deerfield Fairgrounds, from 3 to 7 p.m.

• **NASHUA SUMMER FUN CONCERTS** The Amoskeag Strummers will perform at the Greeley Park Bandshell in Nashua on Fri., June 10.; The Jazz Factory on Mon., June 13.; The Hudson Post Band on Mon., June 20; Hollis Town Band Wed., June 22.; Windham Town Band on June 23; Showstoppers on Fri., June 24; Alumni Band on Mon., June 27; Baza on Thurs., June 30, Jam Lab on Mon., July 4; 1960s Invasion Rock on Mon., July 11; Shannachie on Tues., July 12; Windham Swing Band on Mon., July 18; Gopherbroke on Wed., July 20; Hudson

Post Band on Mon., July 25; The Hudson Post Band on Mon., Aug. 8.; Judy Pancoast on Mon., Aug. 15, at 6 p.m.; Marcus Gale on Mon., Aug. 22, at 6 p.m. and Shannachie on Aug. 24. All concerts begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

• **NEW BOSTON CONCERTS** Freese Brothers Big Band will perform at the New Boston Town Common Gazebo on Sun., June 19, Don Campbell Trio on Sun., July 10, Spirit Fiddle on Sun., July 24, Brass Connection on Sun., Aug. 7, and Noteable Decades on Sun., Aug. 21. All concerts will start at 6 p.m.

• **STARK PARK SHOWS** Bedford Big Band will perform at Stark Park in Manchester on Sun., June 26, at 2 p.m.; Navy Band Northeast on Sun., July 3; Carter Mountain Brass Band on Sun., July 12; Manchester Community Summer Band on Thurs., July 14, at 6 p.m.; Newmont Military Band on Sun., July 19; Annie and the Orphans on Sun., July 24; Windham Swing Band on Sun., Aug. 7; Eric Grant Band on Sun., Aug. 14; Manchester Community Summer Band on Sun., Aug. 21 and Compaq Big Band on Sun., Aug. 28.

Karaoke

• **603 LOUNGE** 14 W. Hollis St., Nashua, 821-5260, Thursdays at 8 p.m.

• **ANTHONY'S PIER** The Pier at Weirs Beach, 263 Lakeside Ave., Laconia, 366-5855, Thursdays 5 p.m. w/Bobby Freedom

• **BEIJING & TOKYO** 61 S. Main St., Concord, 228-0888, Fridays and Saturdays at 9 p.m.

• **CENTRAL WAVE** 368 Central Ave., Dover, 742-9283, Mondays. and Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

• **CITY SPORTS GRILLE** 216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-9656, Thursdays at 9 p.m.

• **CHEN'S** 122 E. Broadway, Derry, 437-8338, Saturdays at 8:30 p.m.

• **CHEN YANG LI** 520 South St., Bow, 228-8508, Thursdays at 9 p.m.

• **CHOP SHOP PUB** 920 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-7706, Wednesdays at 8 p.m. w/ Matty R

• **DANIEL STREET TAVERN** 111 Daniel St., Portsmouth, 430-1011, Fridays and Sundays at 9 p.m.

• **DOVER BRICKHOUSE** 2 Orchard St., Dover, 749-3838, Sundays at 9 p.m.

• **ELEMENT LOUNGE** 1055 Elm St., Manchester, 627-2922, Sundays at 6 p.m. and Tuesdays at 8 p.m. with DJ Sharon.

• **FODY'S GREAT AMERICAN**

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• **GATE CITY PUB** 56 Canal St., Nashua, 598-8256 Thursdays 9 p.m. to close with DJ Bernie D

• **GIUSEPPE'S** 312 Daniel Webster Highway, Meredith, 279-3313, every other Thursday at 10 p.m.

• **HOLIDAY'S BAR & GRILL** 346 Hooksett Road, Auburn, 483-0880, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

• **THE HONEY POT** 920 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-2013, Mondays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. with The Wiz

• **JADE DRAGON LOUNGE** 515 DW Hwy., Merrimack Commons, 424-2280, Thursday through Saturday 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

• **KILLARNEY'S** 9 Northeastern Blvd., 888-1551, Tuesdays, 9 p.m. to midnight, DJ Bernie D

• **LAFAYETTE CLUB** Manchester, 623-9323, Thursdays at 9 p.m. w/ DJ Lance

• **MILANO'S SPORTS BAR** 1 Broad St., Nashua, Saturdays and Sundays at 8 p.m. w/ DJ Bernie D

• **NEW WA TOY** 611 Mast Road, Manchester, 688-1088, Thursdays and Saturdays 8 p.m. to midnight

• **JONATHON'S LOUNGE** at Park Place Lanes, 16 Rockingham Road, Windham, 898-4422, Monday through Friday at 8 p.m.

• **THE PAGE** 172 Hanover St., Portsmouth, 436-0004, Thursdays at 9 p.m.

• **PIT ROAD LOUNGE** 388 Loudon Road, Concord, 226-0533, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9 p.m.

• **PRIME TIME** 620 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-7230, Thursdays at 9 p.m.

• **RICK'S A CAFE & GRILLE** 143 Main St., Kingston, 642-3833, Fridays 8 to 11 p.m.

• **ROCKO'S** 253 Wilson Ave., Manchester, 626-5866, Friday nights at 9 p.m.

• **SLADE'S** 4 W. Hollis St., Nashua, 886-1334, Tuesday through Friday at 9 p.m.

• **STEVE-N-JAMES TAVERN** 187 Rockingham Road, Derry, 434-0600, Thursdays 8 p.m. w/ DJ Sharon Mulrennan.

• **STUDIO 99** 115 Main St., Nashua, 562-5179. Piano karaoke first Thursday of the month 7 p.m., w/ Elise MacDonald. \$3 suggested donation.

• **TANDY'S TOP SHELF** One Eagle Square, Concord,

• **THEO'S RESTAURANT** 102 Elm St., Manchester, 669-4678, Wednesdays, 7:30 -10:30 p.m.

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Babes in puzzleland — RockandRollCrosswords.com by Todd Santos

Across

1. REM ‘Carnival Of ____ (Box Cars)’

6. They provide relief to bus driver

10. ‘If You Leave’ synth-guys

13. Ebony And ____

14. Legendary sing/songer Jim

16. Dave Grohl band ____ Fighters

17. Babes In Toyland ‘95 album

19. Buffalo jam band mainstays

20. What Springsteen does ‘From Asbury Park’

21. Joe Walsh ‘At The ____’

23. Plane reservation

25. Christian sing/songer Vaughan

26. Rapper Darryl McDaniels

29. ‘Popstars’ Kym

32. ‘The Wallflower’ James

34. Industry representatives (abbr)

36. Austin/Ingram ‘Baby, ____ To Me’

37. ‘Hag’ Haggard

39. Former members (abbr)

40. ‘Shattered (Turn The Car Around)’ band

41. ‘Animal’ band ____ Trees

42. Chevelle ‘I ____’ (3,2)

44. Progressive rock (abbr)

46. Leader of Cradle Of Filth

47. Festival locale

48. Uproars with new band

50. “You ____ me away from home” Rod Stewart

51. Peter And The Test Tube Babies ‘____ Annie’

53. Fires member

55. What rockers’ live-in chef provides

58. Aerosmith ‘____ The Saddle’ (4,2)

62. Major London nightclub (abbr)

63. Grammy-winning ‘Fallen’ band

65. Jazz pianist Evans

66. ‘I Am Woman’ Aussie Helen

67. Flyleaf ‘Break Your ____’

68. Underhanded Massive Attack song?

69. Warped tour Queens trio

70. What Tears For Fears were ‘Sowing’ Down

‘Strong’

31. Like rockers in videos

33. Live ‘I ____’

35. Scottish pop rockers Del ____

38. Symphonic 70s rockers

43. Sample of new song

45. What catchy song does

49. Craft service has them

52. Weezer ‘The Greatest Man That Ever ____’

54. Britpoppers Ocean Color ____

55. Lacuna ____

56. Big zero Refreshments song?

57. R&Bers Ruff ____

59. Primus ‘Wounded ____’

60. Metal band ____ Earth

61. Punk rock and roller Mike

62. Booker T And The ____

64. Luscious Jackson’s is ‘Naked’

6/2

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Mammoth Road, 623-3545 Z Food and Drink 860 Elm St. Meredith Camp 300 DW Highway, 279-3003 Giuseppe’s Ristorante 312 DW Highway, 279-3313 Merrimack The Homestead 641 DW Highway, 429-2022 Jade Dragon 515 DW Highway, 424-2280 Milford American Legion 15 Cottage St., 673-9804 Chapanga’s 168 Elm St., 249-5214 Elisha’s Restaurant 437 Nashua St., 249.9353 J’s Tavern 63 Union Sq., 249-9222 The Pasta Loft 241 Union Sq., 672-2270 Madison’s Irish Pub 586 Nashua St. Tiebreakers at Hampshire Hills 50 Emerson Road, 673-7123 Nashua The Amber Room 53 High St., 881-9060 Boston Billiard Club 55 Northeastern Blvd., 595-2121 The Bounty Holiday Inn, 9 Northeastern Blvd., 800-230-4134 Club Social 45 Pine St., 889-9838 Country Tavern 452 Amherst St., 889-5871 Estabrook Grill 57 Palm St., 943-5035 Fody’s Tavern 9 Clinton St., 577-9015 Gate City Pub 56 Canal St., 598-8256 Haluwa Lounge Nashua Mall, 883-6662 Killarney’s Irish Pub Holiday Inn, 888-1551 Lafayette Club 34 High St, 889-9860 Laureano Nightclub 245 Main St. Martha’s Exchange 185 Main St., 883-8781 Michael Timothy’s 212 Main St., 595-9334 Nashua Garden 121 Main St., 886-7363 Old Amsterdam Bar 8 Temple St., 204-5501 The Peddler’s Daughter 48 Main St., 880-8686 Penuche’s Ale House 4 Canal St., 595-9831 Pine Street Eatery 136 Pine St., 886-3501 The Polish American Club 15 School St., 889-9819 Sausage King 53 Main St., 204-5110 Shorty’s Nashua Mall, 882-4070 Simple Gifts Coffee House 58 Lowell St. 603 Lounge 14 W. 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Main St., 382-1705 Pelham Shooters 116 Bridge St., 635-3577 Peterborough Harlow’s Pub 3 School St., 924-6365 Peterborough Players Theater Hadley Road Plaistow Corner Pocket 181 Plaistow Rd., 382-3130 Dugout Grille 93 Main St., 819-4947 The Sad Café 148 Plaistow Rd, 382-8893 Portsmouth American Legion Post 6 96 Islington St. Blue Mermaid Island Grill hill at Hanover and High streets, 427-2583 Daniel Street Tavern 111 Daniel St. Dolphin Striker 15 Bow St., 431-5222 Fat Belly’s 2 Bow St. 610-4337 Gas Light Co. 64 Market St., 431-9122 The Hilton Garden Inn 100 High St., 431-1499 Jitto’s Supersteak 3131 Lafayette Rd, 436-9755 The Music Hall 104 Congress St., 433-3100 Paddy’s American Grill 27 International Dr., 430-9450 Players Ring Theater 105 Marcy St., 436-8123 Portsmouth Pearl 45 Pearl St., 431-0148, Press Room 77 Daniel St., 431-5186 The Red Door 107 State St., 373-6827 Red Hook Brewery 35 Corporate Dr., 430-8600 Ri Ra Irish Pub 22 Market Square, 319-1680 Rudi’s 20 High St., 430-7834 Rusty Hammer 49 Pleasant St., 436-9289 The Wet Bar 172 Hanover St. Raymond Famous Legends Bar & Grill at Strikers East 4 Essex Drive Freetown Yankee Market 58 Route 27, 895-3418 Salem Black Water Grill 43 Pelham Road, 328-9013 Jocelyn’s Lounge 355 S. Broadway, 870-0045 Maggie May’s 326 S. Broadway, 893-4055 Sayde’s Restaurant 136 Cluff Crossing Rd, 890-1032 The Varsity Club 67 Main St., 898-4344 Sandown The Crossing 328 Main St. Seabrook American Legion Post 70 169 Walton Road Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Rd, 474-6001 Honey Pot Bar & Lounge 920 Lafayette Rd, 760-2013 Master McGrath’s Route 107, Seabrook, 474-6540 Prime Time Sports Grill 620 Lafayette Rd, 760-7230 Stratham Acoustic Outfitters 72 Portsmouth Ave. 778-9711 Sunapee One Mile West Tavern 6 Brook Road, 863-7500 Sunapee Coffee House Methodist Church, Route 11 Tilton Lakes Region Fitness 407 W. Main St., 286-3337 Thirsty Crows 504 Laconia Road, 524-5558 Wilton Pine Hill Auditorium Pine Hill Waldorf School, 77 Pine Hill Dr., Windham Jonathon’s Lounge Park Place Lanes, Route 28, 800-892-0568 Amherst Souhegan Christian Church: open mike w/ Music at the Ledge Belmont The Lodge: Jam Sandwich Top of the Town: Joe Holiday Concord Borders: Daniel Chauvin Green Martini: Scott Barnett	Stella Blu: Matt Jackson Studio 99: open mike New Boston Gravity Tavern: Jocelyn Oldham Newton Hen House: acoustic open mike w/ John Porazinski Peterborough Harlow’s Pub: bluegrass jam w/ JT Portsmouth Gas Light: Jim Devlin Duo Press Room: Peter Heimlich Red Door: Local Heroes w/ Jack Blackwater, GL & RO Rudi’s: Ben Geyer Friday, June 10 Allenstown Ground Zero: Wishpool, Convey, My Own Accord, Alexandra Sargent
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On the scene



Band members of the world, unite and take over

Do you have an upcoming show? Make sure that even if the venue doesn't let us know, it gets listed in the Music This Week by sending us updates of your upcoming gigs. Send locations, dates and times for your upcoming shows to music@hippopress.com. Send information by noon on Monday to get listed for the coming week. Or send us links to your regularly updated website or MySpace page.

... or you, with a club...

Does your bar/restaurant/coffeeshop frequently host musical performances? Send the information to music@hippopress.com along with your address and phone number so we can get you into the Music This Week. And if you regularly update your website or MySpace page, you can send us those links as well. Get the information in by noon on Monday to make the coming Thursday's paper.

... and if you are a music fan...

If you're out on the scene and see a show at a location not regularly listed in the Music This Week, let us know at music@hippopress.com. Our goal is to give you the most complete live music listings in the region each and every week.

Makris: Southern Breeze
Pit Road Lounge:
Phoenix
Red Blazer: Randy Arrant
Tandy's: DJ

Dover
Barley Pub: James Keyes
Brick House: Paranoid
Social Club, Waylon Speed
Kelley's Row: Brian
Johnson
RJ's: DJ Big Pez

Epping
Holy Grail: Cold Stream

Exeter
Shooter's: DJ BiggZ
& "D"

Deerfield
Lazy Lion: Dwight
Phetteplace

Gilford
Patrick's: Doug Mitchell

Goffstown
Village Trestle: acoustic
jam w/ John Erlman

Hampstead
Pasta Loft: Morning
Wood

In the spotlight



Classic rock

The Stone Blues Band will perform class rock hits from the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s at Fody's Tavern, 9 Clinton St., Nashua, on Friday, June 10, and at The Pit Road Lounge, 388 Loudon Road, Concord, on Saturday, June 11. Formed in 2003, the five-member band features both male and female vocalists and its members share many years of local and national stage experience. Co-lead singer and founding member Jason Grant has been a member of many area bands, including Isaac Kidder Band, PB&J, Mantis, Bard's Crusade, Slow Children and Ruckus.

Hampton
Wally's Pub: Til We Die

Hooksett
Asian Breeze: Ten and
Out

Kingston
1686 House Tavern:
Mike Belkas

Laconia
Broke Spoke Saloon:
Childz Play
Fratello's: Paul Warnick
Paradise Beach Club:
The Bars

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Karen
Grenier
Whippersnappers:
Over 6

Manchester
Black Brimmer:
Fighting Friday
Club 313: DJ Bob, DJ
Dave G
Derryfield: Mugsy, Jim
Devlin Duo
Fratello's: Sev
Milly's: DJ Clashious
Clay
Murphy's: Business Time
My Friend's: Jack Straw
acoustic open mike

Piccola: Matt Fried
Shaskeen: Scalawag
Strange Brew: Lex & Joe

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Michael
Bourgeois, DJ Holy Cow

Merrimack
Homestead: Joe
McDonald

Milford
Clark's: Malcolm Salls
Pasta Loft: Groove Thang

Nashua
Amsterdam: DJ
Fody's: Stone Blues Band

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JUNE

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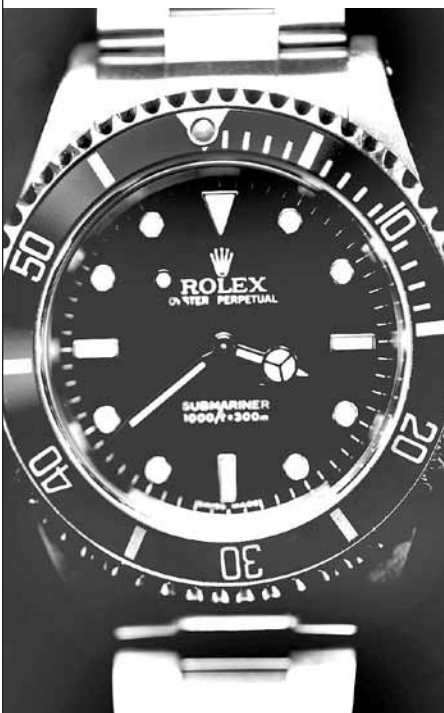
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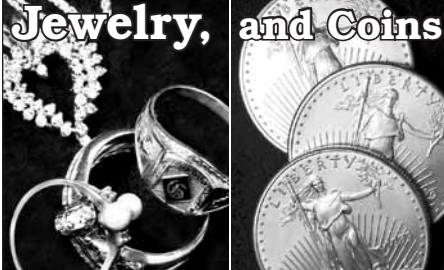
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Sunday's Well
Studio 99: college/20s
open mike

New Boston
Gravity Tavern: Duty Free

Newton
Hen House: DJ

Plaistow
The Dugout: DJ Boo
Sad Cafe: Jake Mattison,
The Jessica Prouty Band,
Izzy and the Kesstronics,
Bright Red Reason, The
Deadly Styles

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: The
Bob Band
Gas Light: Heaven's to
Murgatroid, Julie Doherty
The Page: DJ
Red Door: Lord Bass
Press Room: Tan
Vampires
Rudi's: Dimitri and Danny

Salem
Black Water Grill: Rob
Breton
Jocelyn's: DJ

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Stomping
Melvin
Honey Pot: DJ
Prime Time: Cause for
Alarm

Saturday, June 11
Allenstown
Ground Zero: Live This
Way, Waiting for a Train,
Cherry Hill, The Seventh
Sense, Your Ghost Belongs
to Me, Rumors of Betrayal

Auburn
Holiday's: Classic
Invasion

Belmont
The Lodge: DJ
Top of the Town: Joe
Holiday

Concord
Green Martini: Kurva Jo
Makris: Phoenix
Pit Road Lounge:
Stone Blues Band

In the spotlight



School spirit

Spirit Fiddle will play at the Kimberley L. Cates Scholarship Fund benefit at Souhegan High School, 412 Boston Road, Amherst, on Friday, June 24, at 7 p.m. Spirit Fiddle, an award-winning guitar- and fiddle-playing duo featuring Brian Clancey and Robin Warren will perform a wide variety of tunes including sweet waltzes, bluegrass numbers, French Canadian and Celtic jigs and reels and Parisian musette. The Kimberley L. Cates Scholarship Fund was created to support students pursuing a career in the medical field. Tickets to the benefit cost \$12 in advance at www.kimcatesfund.org and www.spiritfiddle.com. Tickets will be available at the door for \$15.

Tandy's: DJ

Dover
Brick House: Geoff
Useless, Jade Sylvan,
Joe Mazzari Band, LJ
Delta and the Lonesome
Wolves, VulGarrity
Kelley's Row: Brandon
Lepere
RJ's: DJ

Epping
Holy Grail: Twocasters

Epsom
Circle 9 Ranch:
Morgan & Pony Express

Exeter
Shooters: 97 North

Gilford
Patrick's: Paul Warnick

Hampstead
Pasta Loft: Sum + 4
Village Square:
Stomping Melvin

Hampton
Wally's Pub: Bailout

Laconia
Broke Spoke Saloon:
Joe Santana
Paradise Beach Club:
The Bars

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Julie
Dougherty
Whippersnappers:
Souled Out Show Band

Manchester
Black Brimmer: Tigerlily
Club 313: DJ Bob

Derryfield: Chad
LaMarsh Band, Nobody's
Fault
Fratello's: Marybeth Maes
Jam Factory: American
Mixer, Kick the Ladder,
Excrecor, Cross the Divide
Murphy's: Max
Sullivan, Slip
Piccola: Doubleshot
Rocko's: Longshot,
Legend Has It, State
Champs, Manners,
She Has Fallen Me,
Triumph on Tragedy,
Valley Forge, Hope Lies
Within, Last Minute
Sedative, Epik Center
Shaskeen: Irish sessions
w/ Roger Burridge,
Miami Cake & Donuts
Strange Brew: Tabasco
Fiasco
The Yard: Shana Stack
Band

Meredith
Giuseppe's: George
Belli, The Cryin' Out
Loud Band

Merrimack
Homestead: Charlie
Strater

Milford
Clark's: 3Chords
Pasta Loft: Music
School Dropouts

Nashua
Fody's: Metaphysical
Martha's Exchange: DJ
Slades: Max Voltage
Stella Blu: Rampage Trio

New Boston
Gravity Tavern: Lichen

Peterborough
Harlow's Pub: Miss Tess
and the Bon Bon Parade

Plaistow
Sad Cafe: Tom Flash& the
Lightning Band, Wish Pool

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: Fire
Tower w/ Zach Sprague
and Ruth Hayden
Gas Light: The Sun
Dogs, Paul Luff, Pat
Foley Band
The Page: DJ
Press Room: jazz lunch
w/ Larry Garland, Racky
Thomas Blues Band
Red Door: Booster &
Brent G
Rudi's: Yvonne Aubert

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Hypercane

Wilton
Malarkey's: Crimes in
Graceland

Sunday, June 12
Concord
Hermanos: State Street
Combo
Penuche's: open mike
w/ Steve Naylor

Dover
Barley Pub: Yvonne
Aubert
Brick House: 1039,
Conflicted, Dirtnap, Form
and File, Powerwolves,
Word for Word
RJ's: DJ

Goffstown
Village Trestle: blues jam

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JUNE 10TH
Alan Roux

JUNE 11TH
Downtown Dave and the Deep Pockets

In the spotlight



Jazz in Eagle Square

The JT Wildman Jazz Band will celebrate the release of their newest CD, *Live at the Super-Fine*, with a concert at Eagle Square Atrium at Eagle Square in Concord, on Saturday, June 11, from 7 to 11 p.m. The group features cabaret singer Phyllis Pastore on vocals, Jim Wildman on trombone, Tim Wildman on trumpet and vocals and Whit Symmes on piano and vocals. Local musicians Jock Irvine, Chuck Booth, Rob Daisy and BJ Johnson also lend their talents to the band. There will be a request-donation of \$10 at the door.

Kingston
Rick's: blues and rock open
mike w/ Bobby Freedom

Laconia
Broke Spoke Saloon:
The Razorbacks
Lobster Pound: Phoenix
Paradise Beach: Root 3

Londonderry
Whippersnappers:
Gardner Berry

Manchester
900 Degrees: blues open
mike night w/ Tom Ballerini
Derryfield: Chad LaMarsh
Penuche's: blues jam w/
The Deep Pockets
Shaskeen: sing-along w/
the Spain Brothers
Strange Brew: Tom
Keller and John Medeiros

Meredith
Giuseppe's: open mike
w/ Lou Porrazzo

Milford
Clark's: Jim Butka
Pasta Loft: Morgan & Pete

Nashua
Fody's: open mike w/
Chad Verbeck

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: open mike
Gas Light: Doug
Mitchell, Rog and Ray
Press Room: Lance Bryant,
Ryan Parker, Dave Clark
and Yoron Israel
Red Door: Green Lion
Crew
Rudi's: jazz brunch w/
Lex and Joe

Stratham
Acoustic Outfitters: open

mike w/ Ellen Carlson

Monday, June 13
Candia
Henderson's: electric
rock open mike

Concord
Barley House: Dave
Tonkin
Hermanos: State Street
Combo
Red Blazer: Matt Langley

Dover
Castaway's Boathouse:
Denis Patrick's Merry
Pranksters' open mike
Orchard Street: open
mike w/ Dave Ogden

Hampton
La Bec Rouge: open
mike w/ Elijah Clark
Wally's Pub: DJ

Laconia
Broke Spoke Saloon:
Straight Shooter
Paradise Beach Club:
Red Sky Mary

Manchester
Derryfield: Pat Foley
Fratello's: Tim Cannon
Milly's: Dom and Reid of
Manchuka

Meredith
Camp: acoustic open
mike w/ Linden Mazurka

Merrimack
Homestead: Joe McDonald

Milford
J's Tavern: open mike

Nashua
Fody's: DJ Mark Allen

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Sev
Press Room: Tim Webb
Combo, Charlie Jennison,
Les Harris Jr.
Red Door: Greg Jamie,
Fiveeightthirteen

Tuesday, June 14
Concord
Barley House: Irish
sessions
Hermanos: Lex and Joe

Dover
Brick House: open mike w/
Anthony Vito Fiandaca

RJ's: DJ
Hampstead
Pasta Loft: acoustic open
mike w/ Mike Belkas

Laconia
Broke Spoke Saloon:
Black Water
Paradise Beach Club:
Red Sky Mary

Manchester
Black Brimmer: DJ Drew
Derryfield: Tim Cannon
Fratello's: Sev
Milly's: Manchuka
Murphy's: open mike w/
Josh Logan, Nate Comp
and Paul Costley
Strange Brew: Strange
Brew All-stars

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Michael
Bourgeois

Merrimack
Homestead: Gary Lopez

Milford
J's Tavern: G Man

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Paul Warnick
Press Room: jazz jam w/
Larry Garland, hoot open
mike w/ Jerry Short
Red Door: PB Kidd

Seabrook
Honey Pot: open mike

Wednesday, June 15
Antrim
Redneck's: open mike w/
the Boogiemen

Boscawen
Alan's: open mike

Concord
Green Martini: open
mike w/ Steve Naylor
Hermanos: Craig Jaster
Tandy's: DJ

Dover
Barley Pub: The
Lonesome Atlantic
Brick House: Ska-Prest,
The Have Nots, The
Toasters, The Uprisers
Fury's: open mike w/
Paul Chase

Three Chimney's Inn:
open mike

Hampstead
Pasta Loft: Kevin Hartman

Hampton
Wally's Pub: DJ

Kingston
The Carriage Towne:
Mike Belkas

Laconia
Broke Spoke Saloon:
Lex Gray
Paradise Beach: Root 3

Manchester
Black Brimmer: Tom
Dixon Band
Derryfield: Josh Logan
Fratello's: Sev
Jam Factory: open jazz
jam
Penuche's: open mike w/
Friday After Five
Strange Brew: Lex & Joe

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Dave
Wunsch

Merrimack
Homestead: Paul Luff

Milford
Clark's: open mike w/
Gary Lopez
J's Tavern: Lisa Guyer
Pasta Loft: open mike

Nashua
603 Lounge: open mike
w/ Kevin Horan
Fody's: Jocelyn
Sausage King: open
mike w/ John Borlaug
Studio 99: bluegrass jam

Peterborough
Harlow's: open mike

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: open
mike w/ Tom Brown &
Duke Mandell
Gas Light: Dave Gerard
Press Room: Andrew
Merzi
Red Door: Red on Red w/
Evaredy
Rudi's: Dimitri

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thursday, June 9
Nashua
Fody's Tavern: Alana
Susko

Saturday, June 11
Manchester
Headliners: Ira Proctor

Friday, June 10
Manchester
Boynnton's: Johnny

Monday, June 13
Concord
Penuche's: live standup

Tuesday, June 14
Manchester
Murphy's: live standup

Wednesday, June 15
Manchester
Shaskeen: open mike

Nashua
Penuche's: live standup

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- Across**

1 Did the crawl, say

5 Rocky peak

9 Slightly better than average

14 Frat party wear

15 Indie rock band ____ Kiley

16 University of Maine city

17 Oklahoma city

18 “Apache (Jump ____)” (Sugar Hill Gang hit)

19 Acronym used to protest environmental hazards nearby

20 1997 Jennifer Jason Leigh adaptation of a Henry James novel--refilmed in 3-D?

23 Author of one of the Gospels

24 Village Voice theater awards

25 Speaker in Cooperstown

27 Mo. with the 100th day of the year

28 1501, in old Europe

31 International treaty

34 “____ ‘70s Show”
- 36 Org. headquartered in New York City

38 1995 Chris O'Donnell/Minnie Driver romance--refilmed in 3-D?

41 System with joysticks and paddles

42 Reedy instrument

43 Go orange?

44 Lithuania, once: abbr.

45 Director's frantic cry

47 Boston Marathon, e.g.

49 Full of angst

51 Coca-Cola brand of bottled water

55 With “The,” 1978 horror mystery with John Huston--refilmed in 3-D?

58 ____ Lama

59 She-bears, in Seville

60 “Aqualung” band Jethro ____

61 Swelter

62 “ER” star Noah

63 Spot in the ocean

64 Foul odor

65 Thomas who drew Santa Claus

66 Anjou, e.g.
- 13 Meat-free substitute

21 Oddly-sized, like clothing: abbr.

22 Little bite

26 Dismisses, as an idea

28 Wine list companion

29 Clothes

30 Part of MIT

31 “The More You Know” spots, e.g.

32 Units for lease, for short

33 Burn on the outside

35 Wright-Patterson or Andrews: abbr.

37 “Listen up, ‘cause this could be useful...”

39 Alternative for those with dairy allergies

40 Words that come before “go”

46 Palindromic prime minister of Burma

48 Prize “The Price Is Right” contestants freak out about

49 “Hey, Soul Sister” band

50 Class that requires little effort to pass

52 Provide the laughs

53 Wafer brand that goes with banana pudding

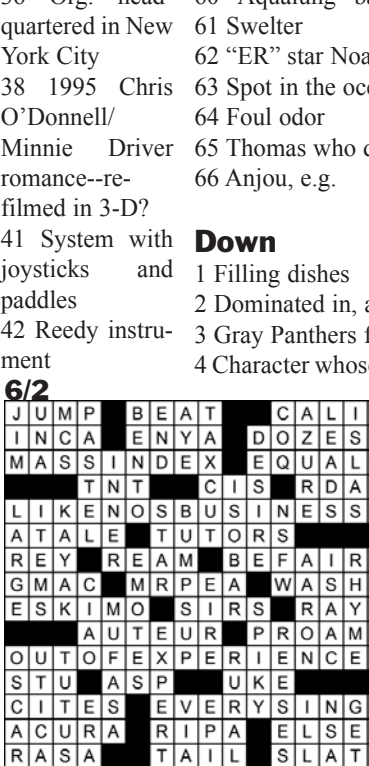
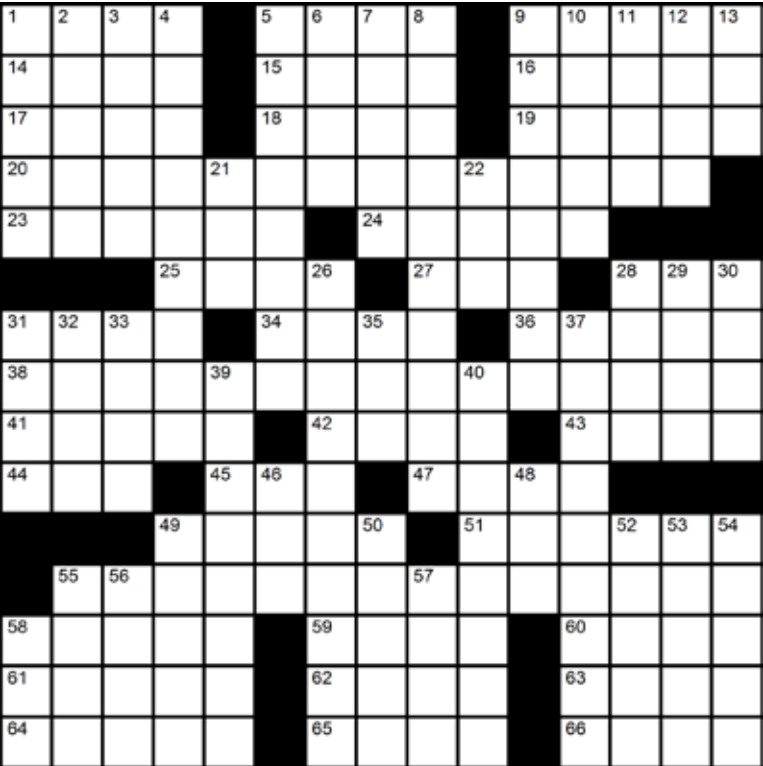
54 Do-nothing

55 “Why you little...” target, often

56 “The Time Machine” race

57 Buddies

58 Aston Martin high-performance model



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VELMA

All quotes are from *Redwall*, by Brian Jacques, born June 15, 1939.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) Beneath the Great Hall of Redwall, candles burned bright in their sconces. This was the Cavern Hole of the mice. What a night it was going to be! Leave some time after preparations are complete to sit back and enjoy what you’ve accomplished.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) Matthias cut a comical little figure as he wobbled his way along the cloisters, with his large sandals flip-flopping and his tail peeping from beneath the baggy folds of an oversized novice’s habit. Make sure you clothes and accessories fit comfortably and securely, and only look comical if you mean to.

Leo (July 23 – Aug 22) Down in Cavern Hole the great feast had slackened off. So had a lot of belts! Redwall mice and their guests sat back replete. There were still great quantities of food uneaten. It’s OK if there’s lots of leftovers — share them with friends and neighbors. Make a goodie bag for each guest.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) They were young mice of the same age. Though their temperaments were different they found something in common, an interest in Tim and Tess, the twin churchmice. Offer advice and support to those who are new to the scene.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) Immediately upon being informed of the hay

cart incident, the Abbot had insisted upon calling a special council meeting of all Redwall creatures. Don’t miss a special meeting. You don’t want to be out of the loop. Your presence is likely to be noticed and remembered.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21) Matthias had never stayed up all night in his life. He was just a bit tired, but strangely excited. You’ll want to stay awake for an exciting event. You can catch up on the lost sleep later.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21) “Precisely,” said the old mouse. “It is indeed a riddle, but don’t worry, Matthias, we will solve it together. I have sent for food and drink. You and I will not move from here until we have the answer.” A difficult problem will require perseverance, collaboration and probably snacks.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan 19) The two mice made their way gingerly down the secret staircase. The moles stayed outside, ready to help if they were needed further. There’s an important job to do and everyone has a role to play, so get ready to make yourself useful.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) Methuselah’s words caused widespread consternation. ... Nobody could doubt he spoke the truth; he was already old and wise when the most elderly among them was a blind hairless mite, puling and whimpering for a feed from its mother. Pay close atten-

tion to the advice of your elders.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) Before much longer Redwall would require the skills and knowledge of all its woodland allies. They would be gratefully given! Draw on the skills and knowledge of trusted friends.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) It was then that Constance did something

that creatures would speak of in years to come. Exerting the full strength of a female badger, she lifted the massive Cavern Hole dining table. It was a huge solid oaken thing that no dozen mice could even move. You may be called upon to apply all your strength to an important task. You’ll find yourself able to accomplish more than you thought.

SIGNS OF LIFE

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) Constance stood on the ramparts. She leaned over the parapet, watching as a young fox approached along the dusty road, bearing a stick with a white rag of truce tied to it. Accept a truce offering only if you’re sure it’s genuine, and be smart about it. Don’t go back for more mistreatment.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	1			8		6	
			7		5		
		6				2	
2	9					3	5
7				9			4
3	6					9	1
		8				1	
			6		3		
	3			7		5	

Difficulty Level ★★

6/09

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SU
DO
KU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

6/2

9	4	7	1	6	2	3	8	5
8	2	6	5	3	9	1	7	4
1	3	5	4	8	7	9	6	2
3	7	9	6	2	5	4	1	8
5	1	4	8	7	3	2	9	6
6	8	2	9	4	1	5	3	7
4	5	1	7	9	8	6	2	3
2	9	8	3	5	6	7	4	1
7	6	3	2	1	4	8	5	9

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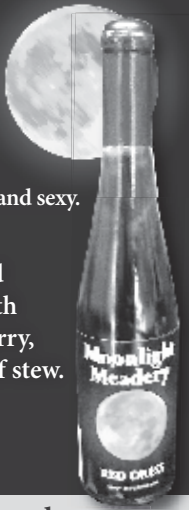
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Neighbors!

Ellenbeth Wachs, 48, was arrested in Lakeland, Fla., in May on a complaint that she "simulated" a sex act in front of a minor. In a March incident, Wachs, after receiving medication for her multiple sclerosis, was awakened at 8:30 a.m. by her 10-year-old neighbor boy's clamorous basketball game, near Wachs' window. After unsuccessfully beseeching the boy for quiet, Wachs — hoping, perhaps, to make a point about noisy neighbors — began moaning out the window (while remaining out of sight), "Oh, John! Oh! John!" over and over at increased shrillness as if in the throes of orgasm. The basketball-playing stopped, but the incident was not a teaching moment. The boy's father, Otto Lehman, called the police and filed for an order of protection against Wachs.

Compelling Explanations

• Dalia Dippolito, 30, of Boynton Beach, Fla., was convicted in May of hiring a hit man to kill her husband, but not before offering an ultra-modern defense: Her lawyer told the jury that it was all a fake scheme to pitch a reality-TV show about one spouse's ordering a hit on the other (and that her husband, Michael, had originally come up with the idea). As Dippolito's plan unfolded, her boyfriend alerted police, who set up a sting and witnessed Dippolito dictating exactly what she wanted done. (In fact, the sting itself was captured on video for the "Cops" TV show.) Michael denied any involvement, and the jury appeared not to give her story any credence.

• "Wrong" Impressions: (1) The Sergeants Benevolent Association, fighting back in April against corruption charges (that its NYPD officers often "fix" traffic tickets for celebrities, high officials and selected "friends") claimed in a recorded message reported in The New York Times that such fixes are merely "courtesy," not corruption. (2) A 20-year-old Jersey City, N.J., gym member claimed "criminal sexual contact" in March, acknowledging that while she had given a male club therapist permission to massage her breasts and buttocks, she had been under the impression that he is gay. When another gym member told her that the therapist has a girlfriend, she called the police.

• Quite a Disease, That Lyme: (1) Marilyn Michose, 46, was referred for medical evaluation in May after she was spotted roaming the lobby of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City wearing neon pink panties on top of her street clothes, with a .25-caliber Beretta visible in her jacket pocket, and speaking gibberish. According to Michose's mother, Marilyn had overmedicated for her Lyme disease. (2) A restraining order, to keep away from Sarah Palin and her family, was extended in May against Shawn Christy, 19, of McAdoo, Pa., by a magistrate in Anchorage, Alaska. Christy has admitted to traveling to Alaska to meet Palin, to making numerous telephone calls to her, and to once threatening to sexually assault her. According to a 2009 psychiatric evaluation ordered by the Secret Service, Christy appeared to suffer from "latent onset" Lyme disease.

Ironies

• Erie County (N.Y.) jail officials suspended guards Lawrence Mule, a 26-year veteran, and James Conlin, a 29-year veteran, after they scuffled at the County Correctional Facility on April 21, reportedly over a bag of chips. An inmate had to break up the fight.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

• An anti-terrorism drill scheduled for Potawatamie County, Iowa, in March, which was to practice community co-ordination after an attack by a hypothetical white supremacist group angry about illegal immigration, had to be canceled. The sheriff said callers claiming to be white supremacists were angry at being picked on as "terrorists" and had threatened a school in Treynor, Iowa, with an attack that closely resembled the kind of imagined attack that would have preceded the simulated drill.

I Demand My Rights!

The lawyer for Charles Wilhite expressed shock in a formal motion before the court after his client's murder trial in Springfield, Mass., in April (in which Wilhite was convicted). How could it be, he asked the judge, that despite having to evaluate 19 witnesses and examine 55 pieces of evidence, the jury could so quickly have decided (three hours total) that Wilhite and his partner Angel Hernandez were guilty? (The lawyer insinuated that the jury had thus been inattentive or biased, but did not mention the possibility that Wilhite and Hernandez were so obviously guilty that no more time was necessary.)

Signs of the Times

"Dog Stylist" Dara Foster ("I show people how to live together with their dogs in a stylish way") told a TV audience recently that some dog owners are dressing their pooches in "80s-inspired punk," "giving way to a grunge movement in dog fashion — I swear to God." The ubiquitous TV guest and apparel designer estimates that since Americans already spend \$47 billion a year on pets, they need more than ever to know what's hot — fluorescent styling gel, for example, and precooked meals for dogs, and owners getting matching tattoos with their dogs, and a recently spotted synthetic mullet wig for dogs.

Putting Fannies in the Pews

(1) To hype attendance for Easter services this year, Lindenwald Baptist Church in Hamilton, Ohio, raffled off \$1,000 on Easter Sunday. As a result, attendance more than doubled, to 1,137

(including 1,135 raffle losers). (2) A month earlier, Pastor John Goodman of the Houston Unity Baptist Church tried a different approach, calling on parishioners to cede their income-tax refunds to the church and warning that anyone who failed to come to the aid of the church is a "devil" and could be refused communion.

Least Competent Criminals

People Who Didn't Think It Through: (1) Joseph Price, 61, left the PNC Bank in Okeechobee, Fla., empty-handed on May 6 despite having passed the teller a note demanding a "sack full of cash." However, he hadn't brought a sack with him, and the teller said she didn't have one, either. He was arrested seven minutes after leaving the bank. (2) Joseph Brice, 21, of Clarkston, Wash., was indicted in May on one count of having manufactured a bomb in 2010. Brice inadvertently called attention to himself by ordering his bomb components under the name of (Oklahoma City bomber) "Timothy McVeigh."

The Jesus and Mary World Tour (all-new!)

In December, the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay, Wis., announced it had received approval to designate a site in Champion, Wis., as the 11th official, Vatican-authorized location of a Virgin Mary apparition (witnessed by a nun in 1859). Meanwhile, these recent bootleg public appearances were reported: Yucca Valley, Calif., in April (Jesus on the petal of a poppy plant). Brisbane, Australia, in March (Jesus on a pie from the Posh Pizza restaurant). Los Angeles in February (Jesus on a rocking chair). Pequabuck, Conn., in February (Mary in an ice formation on a neighbor's roof). Comal County, Texas, just north of San Antonio, in December (Mary, "floating" on the wall of an apartment building). Elwood, Ind., in December (Jesus on a woman's chest X-ray).

Are you ready for News of the Weird Pro Edition? Every Monday at <http://NewsOfTheWeird.blogspot.com> and www.WeirdUniverse.net. Other handy addresses: WeirdNews@earthlink.net, <http://www.NewsOfTheWeird.com>, and P.O. Box 18737, Tampa FL 33679.

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"(THEY) WOULD BE ABSOLUTELY STUNNED!"

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- 8/12 RICKIE LEE JONES
- 8/13 JOHN GORKA LUCY KAPLANSKY ELIZA GILKYSON
- 8/14 SHAKESPEARE'S MEASURE FOR MEASURE
- 8/19 MAVIS STAPLES
- 8/20 EILEEN IVERS
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- 8/27 STEVEN PAGE Former BNL Lead Singer
- 8/30 GREGG ALLMAN
- 9/2 RICHARD THOMPSON
- 9/3 MATISYAHU
- 9/9 WARREN HAYNES
- 9/10 BANJO & FIDDLE

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- 7/7 MARIANA IRANZI
- 7/13 BEN RUDNICK & FRIENDS
- 7/14 JUMPING MONKEYS SONGS
- 7/20 MARCUS GALE
- 7/21 BENJAMIN JUGGLING CLOWN
- 8/3 RICK GOLDIN SONGS
- 8/4 DOUBLE VISION
- 8/10 BONAPARTE MAGIC
- 8/11 THE JIM SHOW JUGGLING

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Mon – Fri 11am–1am
Sat 9am–1am
Sun 7³⁰am–1am

Last call for food is 1/2 hour before closing and for alcohol it is
15 minutes before closing



JUST ANNOUNCED > ON SALE FRIDAY@10AM

KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD

FRIDAY
AUGUST 26



SUNDAY
AUGUST 28

38TH SPECIAL
THURS JUNE 9

A NIGHT WITH
CAPTAIN SIG &
THE HILLSTRAND
BROTHERS FROM
DEADLIEST CATCH

TEDESCHI
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BLACK
COUNTRY
COMMUNITIES
FRIDAY, JUNE 17

A LATE JULY SPECIAL
GARY
GILBERT
SATURDAY • JUNE 18

HUEY AND THE
LEWIS NEWS
FRIDAY • JUNE 24

comedian
AZIZ ANSARI
Sunday, June 26

STEEL PULSE
THURSDAY JUNE 30

BADFISH
a tribute to
SUBLIME
SAT 7/2 • ALL AGES

comedian
JOHN PINETTE
sunday july 3

HAT
BENATAR
FRIDAY JULY 8

Bob
SAGET
saturday JULY 9

**HAPPY
TOGETHER TOUR**
SUNDAY, JULY 10

**TAKING
BACK
SUNDAY**
tue 7/19 • all ages

comedian
JEFF DUNHAM
WED 7/20 & THU 7/21

John Mayer
FRIDAY JULY 22

Bud Cherry
SATURDAY
JULY 23

sunday, july 24–
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- Aaron Lewis of Staindmon JUL 25
- Puddle of Muddtue JUL 26
- Reel Big Fish and Streetlight
- Manifesto all ageswed JUL 27
- Brian Regan comedianthu JUL 28
- Lisa Lampanelli comedianfri JUL 29
- Josh Turnersun JUL 31
- All Time Low all agesmon AUG 1
- Stone Temple Pilotstue AUG 2
- Stone Temple Pilotswed AUG 3
- Louis C.K. comedian, 2 showsthu AUG 4
- Queensrychefri AUG 5
- Americasat AUG 6
- Reggae Revival with Ali Campbell's UB40, Junior Marvin's Wailers and Maxi Priestsun AUG 7
- Melissa Etheridgemon AUG 8
- Cinderellawed AUG 10
- Ron White comedianfri AUG 12
- Ted Nugentmon AUG 15
- Barenaked Ladiestue AUG 16
- KC & The Sunshine Bandfri AUG 19
- Whitesnakesun AUG 21
- Southside Johnny & The Asbury Jukessat AUG 27
- B.B. Kingfri SEPT 2
- Carnival of Madness Tour with Theory of a Deadman, Alter Bridge and Black Stone Cherrysat SEPT 3
- Bret Michaelssat SEPT 17
- George Thorogood & The Destroyerssat OCT 8

SEE IT
HEAR IT
LIVE IT
LIVE

2011 BUDWEISER CONCERT SERIES



POOL AND PATIO SALE



\$598
5 Piece
Set

Huge Savings on American-made High Quality Patio Furniture

Many sets are on sale throughout the store. Here is just one example Gardenella by Telescope made in Granville, NY (on the Vermont border)

The original sling chair is now over 30 years old with more colors now than ever to choose from. Light and portable, yet built to last for many years to come. We show our set in a gloss white frame with a 42" glass top or solid top table and 4 Textaline sling dining chairs in your choice of sling color. We stock over a dozen color combinations to choose from. **Originally \$1059, Save \$461**



Photograph of an actual Reprieve pool.

Every Pool Package is on Sale. Save up to \$600!

\$1199

Round Complete
Deluxe Package

\$1999

Oval Complete
Deluxe Package

Here's just one example: The Reprieve Deluxe Pool Package by Sharkline. American-made name brand pool with 30 year warranty*. Complete Deluxe Accessory Package with ladder, all maintenance equipment, a year's supply of chemicals, high-rate filter and solar heating cover. Want to know more? We have one operating here in our Pool Park, and we'll give you a 100 page folder to give you all the details.

12' - \$1199
15' - \$1399
18' - \$1599

21' - \$1699
24' - \$1799
27' - \$2099

12' x 17' - \$1999
15' x 30' - \$2699
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Hot Tub Sale

Does Dad deserve a hot tub for Father's Day?
Certainly! Save hundreds on every hot tub in stock

Save Up To \$7,000



Blow-Up-Pools and Supplies

Filters that actually vacuum. Cartridges that last all summer. Ladders, skimmers, accessories, the right chemicals, and more.

Pool Supply Prices That Beat The "Discount" Stores

Why Compromise? We have added many lower-priced products, and lowered the prices on many more! We beat the national discount stores, and still give you the knowledgeable help that you expect from us.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW EXAPLES:

	Sale	Save			
25 lb. Jumbo Tabs - 99% trichlor (#2892)	74.98	42%	Leaf Rake (#5461)	7.98	47%
15 lb. Chlorinating Quick Tabs (#2889)	49.98	38%	Weighted Aero Vac Head - (#9024)	6.97	47%
Quart Clarifier - Robelle (#5210)	2.98	57%	Classic Wall Brush (#5223)	3.98	70%
Gallon Liquid Chlorine Shock - Econo (#2925)	3.48	30%	42' x 1 1/2" White Vacuum Hose (#2934)	29.98	50%
1 lb. Bag Powdered Shock - Poolife (#1015)	2.98	40%	28' Round Solar Cover - Robelle (#2692)	119.98	47%
5 lb. pH Rise - 100% (#5178)	4.98	45%	Sand Filter Tank Assembly with 4-position backwash valve, 100 lb. capacity clearance (#1717)	179.97	40%

FREE Pool Schools, Wednesday 7PM to 8:30PM. Please call to register.
Introduction to Pool Chemistry: June 8th. Pool Care Lite: July 13th.



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Extended Store Hours: Mon. - Fri. 10-9 Sat. 10-5 Sun. 11-5

Sale Ends Saturday, June 18th.

*All warranties are limited, and are available in the store for you to read before you buy.

Beat the crowds. If you require extra service (water lab, advice, training), avoid the first 2 hours of the day in any pool store when it is very hot.

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